

Portfolio Gold - Go for gold on Monday - that is when The Times' unique share-price competition is relaunched as Portfolio Gold...

US battle force on course for Libya

From Christopher Thomas, Washington - A virtual news blackout was maintained in Washington yesterday as US ships headed to within striking range of Libya...



Mr Nick Raynsford and his wife Anne celebrating his victory on a boat in front of Parliament (Photograph: Tim Bishop).

Tories keen for poll tests

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter - The Government is pressing ahead quickly with its next two by-election tests, buoyed by the failure of the Liberal-Social Democratic Alliance to make any headway in the Fulham contest...

Drug gang clue as Guinness ransom deadline passes

From Richard Ford, Belfast - A three-day deadline set by the kidnapers of Mrs Jennifer Guinness passed last night without the police or family receiving any contact from the gang holding her for an IRE2 million ransom...

Disabled Bill passed unchanged

By Sheila Ginn, Political Staff - The Government unexpectedly dropped its resistance to a Bill to improve the prospects of the disabled and mentally ill yesterday...

Former UN boss takes new line

From Frank Johnson, Vienna - Dr Kurt Waldheim has given a new account of his movements for the years during which he is accused of having had direct knowledge of war crimes...

Next week

MONDAY - The Queen at 60



The Queen celebrates her 60th birthday this month. In a three-part series The Times presents a profile of Her Majesty, her advisers and her Commonwealth...

Governors criticize prison cuts

Prison governors said that some jails were in danger because of budget restraints, as prison officers prepare for industrial action over the issue...

Car fraud

Nearly a quarter of used cars sold in Britain have the mileage turned back by unscrupulous dealers, a National Consumer Council report reveals...

Zia warned

Miss Benazir Bhutto, speaking after being welcomed back to Pakistan by huge crowds, warned President Zia's Government that it could be replaced without resort to violence...

Depot attack

Masked pickets rampaged through a wholesaler's depot at Southend, which handles News International papers, causing thousands of pounds of damage. Six people were injured...

Hint to Paris

Mr David Lange, New Zealand's Prime Minister, hinted that two French agents jailed after the Rainbow Warrior sinking might be released into French custody...

Best interests

It pays more than ever to shop around for the best place to put your savings. Family Money, pages 25 to 35

Moscow ends its ban on nuclear testing

From a Correspondent, Moscow - The Kremlin announced yesterday that it was ending its unilateral ban on nuclear test explosions, having urged the United States for eight months to stop testing weapons in the Nevada desert...

ROME

The Italian Government has officially called for an emergency meeting of foreign ministers of the European Community on the crisis in the Mediterranean...

BONN

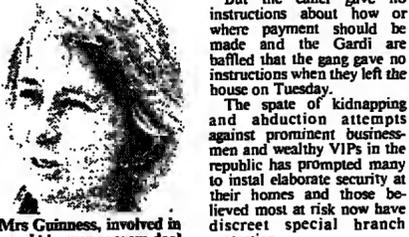
Chancellor Kohl said yesterday that he could understand American bitterness over terrorist attacks on US citizens leading to Washington making reprisals strikes on Libya...

DELHI

The Libyan Ambassador to India has been told by annoyed Indian officials to stop advertising in newspapers for Indians to join the Libyan armed forces...

Coldest April on record

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent - April followed February into the record books yesterday as lashing winds helped keep temperatures down to half the usual average for this time of year...



Mrs Guinness, involved in squabble over ransom deal

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Equity bars stars from South Africa

By Colin Hughes - The controversial result, on a topic which has frequently split the union's membership, will become immediate policy. Next week, Equity's ruling council will discuss action to be taken against members who disobey the ban...

Hanson wins battle for Imperial

Hanson Trust emerged last night as the winner in the £2.8 billion takeover battle for Imperial, the Courage beer to John Player cigarette group, when the rival offer by United Biscuits failed...

Equity bars stars from South Africa

The decision may jeopardize the position of Mr Derek Bone, the union's president. He has already faced calls to resign because he preferred a policy which obliged members to sign a declaration saying they would not perform to racially-segregated audiences...

Prison governors agree jails are in danger from cuts in finances

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Prison governors yesterday said that some jails were being placed in danger by budget restraints imposed by the Government, as prison officers prepared for industrial action over the issue.

Governors have been advised by their union not to undertake duties normally carried out by prison officers — if they take industrial action — unless it threatens life, prevents essential services, or offends against the law.

Governors will not censor mail, conduct visits, take charge of work parties, serve extras to prisoners from the jail shop or similar tasks. Essential services include feeding, hygiene needs, proper medical care and the discharge of prisoners on the date due.

Ballot results so far known indicate an overwhelming vote by officers in favour of industrial action, which could cause administrative chaos in jails.

The governors' attitude now becomes crucial, but they will not take industrial action. Government contingency plans include the use of troops and camps.

In their first public statement of their position, governors said yesterday that their policy on the issue at the centre of the dispute was broadly similar to that of the Prison Officers' Association.

Some establishments were being placed in danger. Generally there was pressure resulting from under-staffing and under-funding to deal with more violent criminals and a greater prison population.

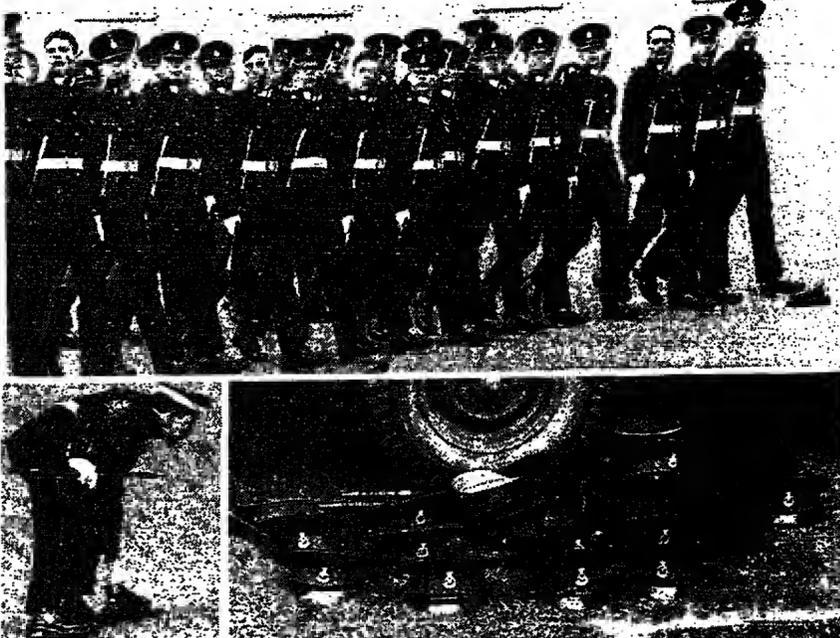
Mr Sidney Powell, secretary of the prison governors' branch of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, yesterday disclosed that it had sent a letter to the Prime Minister at the beginning of the month, warning of frustration and anger felt by prison officers and other staff about financial constraints.

The letter came after a motion at the governors' annual conference in January calling for government action to reduce pressure on jails.

Mr Powell quoted Mr Leo Brittan, then Home Secretary, as talking to the 1983 Conservative Party conference about measures taken to deal with law and order and an increased number of violent criminals in custody with dim prospects of release.

"We owe it to the brave men and women who staff our prisons to ensure that they are given the resources to tackle that challenge," he said.

Mr Powell said yesterday: "That statement is not compatible with what has happened since." Last year financial constraints were placed on the service and increased this year. In 1984, Mr Brittan had forecast a prison population of 47,000 by the end of the decade. Last year it reached 48,000.



Off caps with a difference at the Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, yesterday, where the wind whipped away the headgear of several graduating officer cadets marching past Princess Anne. Top: hatless cadets. Below left: a warrant officer collects a cap, which then joins a pile.

Masked pickets rampage at depot

By Michael Horsnell

Masked pickets rampaged through a newspaper distribution depot early yesterday and injured six people, including three policemen, in a widening of violent protest against News International.

In the ugliest demonstration outside London since the company dismissed 6,000 striking print workers in January, pickets carrying Sogat '82 insignia caused thousands of pounds of damage at the John Menzies depot in Southend, Essex. Two of the injured were Sogat men.

Earlier in the night demonstrators let down car tyres and placed stickers on windcreens saying "London Sogat - Last Warning".

Then at 2 am two men from a group of about 40 who arrived by coach from London, many of whom wore balaclavas and scarves to cover their faces, were allowed entry to the premises after they asked permission to speak to the father of the chapel (chairman of the branch) there.

The two men quickly unlocked the door to the vestibule and 10 others invaded the offices and warehouse.

They smashed the telephone when an employee tried to alert police, beat up three employees, hurled fire extinguishers through windows and attacked stationary vehicles.

The pickets were eventually dispersed by police. Plans to disrupt distribution of *The Times* and *The Sun* were unsuccessful.

A spokesman for John Menzies, which has resisted several print union pickets at its 87 nationwide wholesale outlets since the dispute began, said: "I am proud to say the staff did not hesitate afterwards to handle supplies and effected 100 per cent distribution."

More than 200 people took part in a demonstration in Paris yesterday organized by the communist-led CGT union in support of the workers dismissed at News International (Diana Geddes writes from Paris).

After gathering outside the offices of *Le Monde*, the demonstrators marched to the British Embassy, where M Roger Lantry, secretary of the Parisian print branch of the CGT, handed a cheque for 120,000 franc (about £11,000) to Mr Bryn Griffiths, president of the National Graphical Association.

Mr Jacob Eccleston has retained his post as deputy general secretary of the National Union of Journalists in a ballot of the membership.

Man in the news

Slow climb to Westminster

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

Mr Nick Raynsford, Fulham's new Labour MP, was greeted as a victorious hero by his party at Westminster yesterday — in marked contrast to the reception he received 21 years ago when he first attempted to "enter" Parliament.

Then a young university student, more interested in climbing than politics, he was in London for a friend's twenty-first birthday when, on a warm summer's night, Westminster first beckoned.

"After I had far more beer than was good for me, I was persuaded by others to ascend the Houses of Parliament," he recalls somewhat sheepishly.

"We drove down to Parliament Square, parked the car, and four of us did the climb without ropes. It was extremely foolish." He was duly greeted on the roof by two waiting policemen.

Wylliv Richard Nicolls Raynsford was born in 1944. His father had been killed months earlier in Normandy,

and his mother died in a car crash 11 years later.

Brought up by his grandparents, he comes from what he calls a "conservative background". Educated at Repton before going on to Sidney Sussex, Cambridge, where he gained a degree in history, he displayed little early interest in politics, and while at Cambridge flirted briefly with the Conservative, Liberal, and Labour Clubs.

After leaving Cambridge in 1966, he went into market research for two years before going to the Chelsea School of Art.

He married in 1968, and his wife, Anne, rented a house in Fulham, west London. He soon became angered by plans to build a motorway through the constituency and campaigned successfully against it. It was also a period when property prices were rising, and tenants with inadequate legal protection were forced out of their homes by landlords.

He joined the Labour Party

in 1970, and within a year was elected to the Hammersmith and Fulham Borough Council, and became chairman of the leisure and recreation committee.

In 1973, he started work for the London Housing Aid Centre, first in its emergency department, then as head of research, before becoming director in 1976.

However, because of the workload he decided to resign as a councillor in 1975. But while remaining an active Labour Party member he stayed on the political sidelines until 1981 when he sought the parliamentary nomination in Fulham. He lost by three votes.

Last September, before the Fulham by-election was to the office, he was persuaded by colleagues to try again. This time he won easily.

The rest of the story is history. Labour's new "Mr Nice Guy" has made it to Westminster — the legal way.

Tories to move by-election writs

Continued from page 1

the SDP/Liberal grouping. It looks as if they were squeezed out and people are perhaps returning to their traditional voting loyalties."

There was no attempt by the Alliance to dispute its dismay with the result. Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, said: "It is a disappointing result and there is no point in trying to pretend otherwise. We only increased our vote by 1 per cent and would have liked to have increased it by a great deal more than that."

"Labour have done well, they had a good candidate and fought a good campaign. It is a bad result for the Conservatives but also a bad result for us."

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, admitted that the result was disappointing but said

that one isolated victory did not make a Labour government.

But Labour leaders were jubilant, seeing in the outcome public backing for Mr Neil Kinnock's efforts to take on the Militant Tendency. Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's deputy leader, said it was an historic victory for the Labour Party, demonstrating that the people had rejected Conservative policies and recognized the SDP as an irrelevance.

Mr Raynsford sailed down the Thames yesterday for a champagne welcome from Mr Kinnock at Westminster. He said: "This is a tremendous result for the Labour Party. We have overturned a substantial Conservative majority with a thumping victory and we have marginalized the SDP. The SDP are on the way out as a serious party in

British politics."

Mr Kinnock said the success was a lift for the whole party in the run-up to the local elections.

The Alliance had failed because they had nothing to say. "They could not even attract the Tories who wanted to vote against Mrs Thatcher."

But despite the attempts of the two main parties to write off the Alliance, few politicians doubt that it will form the main challenge to the Tories in West Derbyshire and Ryedale. It could win either seat on a swing of about 14 per cent.

Mr John Spence, who recently died, held Ryedale with a majority of 16,142 in 1983. Mr Matthew Parris, MP for West Derbyshire, who is leaving politics for television, had a majority of 15,325.

MoD might waive £60m levy for US

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Ministry of Defence is considering the possibility of offering to waive a £60 million levy on Hawk trainer aircraft to be supplied for the United States Navy in return for the US foregoing levies when preparing bids for alternatives to the troubled British Nimrod airborne early warning project.

The US Navy is expected to require 300 Hawk trainer aircraft, and it is intended they should be supplied by British Aerospace in a joint project with the American company McDonnell Douglas.

Meanwhile, because of doubts about the ability of the British GEC company satisfactorily to complete the Nimrod project, the Ministry of Defence is seeking bids from American companies with possible substitute systems for Nimrod.

There are basically three American aircraft which could replace Nimrod. They are the Boeing AWACS, now in service with Nato, the Lockheed P-3, and the US Navy's Grumman E2C Hawkeye.

Where research and development work on an aircraft has been financed by a government, it is normal to add a surcharge to the price of overseas sales to recover a portion of this cost. The MoD said yesterday that the idea of

waiving these surcharges was one they might look at for the mutual benefit of both states, but it was premature to discuss it because it would require an administrative agreement and this had not been negotiated.

More than 2,000 shipyard workers who went on strike in an unsuccessful attempt to stop the launch of HMS Coventry voted yesterday to return to their jobs.

The craftsmen at Swan Hunter Shipbuilders on the Tyne agreed overwhelmingly at a mass meeting to accept the advice of national union officers to resume normal working from Monday.

This will enable talks to go ahead on Thursday between union officers and management.

The men went on strike on Monday but their aim of preventing the launch of Coventry, the new £100 million Type 22 frigate, was foiled when management staged a dramatic launch early on Tuesday morning.

After the meeting, Mr Dennis Shadbill, the company's industrial relations and personnel director, said management was looking forward to talks with the union over its final offer — to increase wages from £135 a week to £153 now and £160 next year.

Heseltine joins in Land Rover battle

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

The Land Rover management team which is seeking to buy the state-owned company yesterday won a powerful, if controversial, ally in the shape of Mr Michael Heseltine, the former Secretary of State for Defence.

He told Conservative Party meetings in Birmingham and Derby: "The management-employee buy-out should be accepted."

He said the worst possible reason for delaying a management buy-out would be to keep the company as a "sweetener" for some later deal to sell Leyland Trucks.

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, was also in the Midlands yesterday visiting the factory in Rochester, North Staffordshire factory of J C Bamford, the rival bidder.

He declined to comment on Mr Heseltine's intervention and insisted that his long standing arrangements to visit J C Bamford would have "looked just as odd" if he had cancelled them.

Mr Tiny Rowlands' company, Lonrho, is the third bidder.

Mr Heseltine said Land Rover should be allowed to "blaze new trails in the private sector like Jaguar". Control of the company would be local.

"Policy decisions on components and suppliers will be determined in the Midlands not in boardrooms overseas."

Mr Heseltine denied that his criticism of US car manufacturers was further evidence of his anti-American stand during his battle to stop Westland Helicopters falling into American hands.

Big fall in union rolls

The number of trade union members has fallen by more than two million since 1979 to 10,774,000, the annual report of the Certification Officer for Trades Unions and Employers' Associations shows.

The largest fall was in the Transport and General Workers' Union — by 56,000 to 1,491,000. However, the

union did acquire one new recruit when the Queen Mother accepted honorary membership to go with her honorary job of Smithfield porter.

Total assets for all unions rose in 1984 to £531 million from £470 million the previous year. Both figures excluded the sequestered funds of the Mineworkers.

Teachers are backed by bishops

Roman Catholic bishops yesterday criticized the teachers' pay and career structure as being "inadequate for the desirable status of the profession".

After a three-day conference they issued a statement saying that "further local authority or central government cuts in resources would run the risk of gravely damaging an already under-resourced enterprise".

The statement will be sent to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

The bishops of England and Wales, who met at Archbishop's House, Westminster, said: "Negotiations so far have been virtually impossible because of the seeming inflexibility of both Government and unions."

The Bishop of Leeds, the Right Rev David Konstant, who headed a committee looking at the education question, disclosed yesterday that he had a secret meeting recently with Sir Keith.

"The teachers have a very strong case, which has the bishops' backing," he said. "The health of the nation demands a good education service. It is our belief that the status of teachers is inadequately recognized in respect of salary and career structure."

The bishop said that they felt the statement was necessary.

Younger's troops promise to Ulster

By Gavin Bell

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, has promised to send more troops to Northern Ireland if required to help the Royal Ulster Constabulary's battle against a terror campaign being waged against it by "loyalists" angered by the Anglo-Irish agreement.

Mr Younger, paying his first visit to the province yesterday since being appointed in January, recalled that two extra battalions had been drafted in since the controversial accord was signed last November.

The arrival of 1,200 men of The Kings Own Scottish Borderers and the Royal Green Jackets in January and March came after a series of Provisional IRA mortar attacks against the RUC. It brought the present army strength to 16,750.

Mr Younger began his visit with a briefing for Lieutenant-General Robert Pasco, GOC Northern Ireland, before flying by helicopter to south Armagh to meet troops of the First Battalion, the Black Watch, supporting RUC units in the border area.

"I can see that there is very great concern over the political issues at the moment among the loyalists, but there is also a remarkable display of loyalty and of professionalism by the RUC."

The minister met members of border patrols and of a special airborne reaction force, and toured observation posts by helicopter. He then went to a battalion of the



Mr Younger talking to soldiers of the Black Watch in Bessbrook, Co Armagh

Ulster Defence Regiment where he was briefed on the work of bomb disposal units.

There were signs yesterday that the level of violence may be dropping, with only two petrol bomb attacks reported against the police during the preceding night.

One was thrown at a mobile support unit in Belfast and two were hurled through the living room window of the home of an RUC family in Lisburn, south of the city.

Mr Fred Gracey, a former RUC officer who was in the house with his wife, Isabel, said later: "I'm satisfied, not terrified. If they want it, in the plain words of an Irishman, the hell with it, they can have it."

The couple's four sons are all members of the RUC.

More than 160 gun, petrol bomb, and stoning attacks have been reported against the RUC since March 3, and more than 30 police families have been forced to leave their homes.

The Ulster Defence Association, the biggest Protestant paramilitary organization, has refused to denounce the attacks, but yesterday Mr John McMichael, its political spokesman, gave a clear indication that there may be a lull, for the moment.

"Our belief is that the

Anglo-Irish agreement must be opposed, and that there should be no limit to that opposition," he said.

"For about a week now, we have been strenuously trying to bring the situation under control. But if the Government makes another mistake, like banning legal parades, the people will hit out blindly."

Concern about the nightly waves of shootings and bombings has prompted the Police Federation, representing the province's 12,500 RUC officers, to urge their police chief to reconsider his participation in conference meetings under the Anglo-Irish agreement.

A federation statement issued yesterday reiterated that Mr Alan Wright, its chairman, had called for serious consideration of the need for Sir John Hermon, the chief constable, to attend "because of misinterpretation giving rise to the unfortunate view many people have of the chief constable as being politically directed."

The Northern Ireland Office said Sir John and Mr Lawrence Wren, Commissioner of the Irish Garda Siochana, had attended three of the four full conference meetings held so far.

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QUEEN ELIZABETH 2
A member of the Trafalgar House Cruise

Polish player is clear victor in chess contest

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

Robert Kuczynski, the Polish player, drew, in 38 moves, with the Indian player Viswanathan Anand, and thus came clear first in the Oakham School Young Masters tournament, with a score of 6½ points from nine games.

Closely behind came four players with six points each: Anana, the international master Mark Condie, of Scotland, who also won the brilliancy prize in the event, the English international master, James Howell, and the Hungarian, Csaba Horvath.

Four English players were in the next point group at 5½: Kenneth Shovel, Graham Waddingham, Peter Wells and Neil McDonald, who missed his international master norm and title by a half point.

However, after his first place finish this month in the GLC Chess Challenge, his result of 5½ points confirms him as one of the most promising young English masters. Other players with 5½ were: Mihail Marin (Romanian), Paul Henry (Czechoslovak), Nicolas Nijbo (Dutch), Eduardo Ruiz (Spain) and Oliver Schulte (German Federal Republic).

Police charge widow of pub landlord

Mrs Marion Joannou, whose husband was found dead on the lawn of their home at Thames Ditton, Surrey, last week, is to appear in court on Monday.

She is charged with impeding the arrest of Lance Corporal John Walton, who appeared in court last Wednesday charged with murdering Mr Michael Joannou, the landlord of a public house.

A spokesman for Scotland Yard said that Mrs Joannou, aged 35, of Camm Gardens, Thames Ditton, would appear before magistrates at Walton and Esber.

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Car dealers' clocking fraud costing buyers £100 m, report states

Unscrupulous dealers turned back the mileometers of nearly a quarter of the used cars sold in Britain last year, a National Consumer Council report said yesterday.

The report, to be presented today at the annual Consumer Congress in Newcastle upon Tyne, said "clocking" is rife nationally, costing consumers £100 million in fraud each year.

Of an estimated two million used cars sold in the UK last year, 22 per cent had an incorrect mileage reading, some cars reduced by 30,000 miles, the report found.

Complaints by consumers about the motor trade approach 100,000 a year, according to the Institute of Trading Standards Administration.

The report says the sale of unroadworthy and often dangerous vehicles presents a real risk to unsuspecting motorists.

"Motorists are being duped by unscrupulous dealers, who are making an illegal profit of more than £1,000 on reducing the mileage readings," Mr Bob Wright, the chief consumer protection officer for Barnsley, south Yorkshire, said yesterday.

He said the Consumer Council

will put pressure on the Government to tighten the 1972 Road Traffic Act and stop the sale of unroadworthy vehicles.

The consumer council wants new cars to be fitted with tamper-proof mileometers and car registration documents to include a statement of mileage, with details logged on the DVLC computer in Swansea.

Mr Wright said car auctions should be licensed and licences required to keep records of cars bought and sold, and traders should provide a pre-sale information sheet, listing the mileage, condition, state of the key components and checks which have been carried out.

The report, which was prepared by the consumer council and the Institute of Trading Standards Association, said the motor trade is one of the highest single areas of concern for consumers.

High mileage "company" cars sold after two or three years, formed the backbone of the lucrative, illegal trade in "clocked" second-hand cars.

Each year, about 1.7 million new cars are sold, of which 60 per cent are bought by companies. Many of those run up to

30,000 to 40,000 miles a year before being sold at auctions.

"It is not unusual for these cars to have 50,000, 60,000 or even 70,000 miles clocked," Mr Wright said.

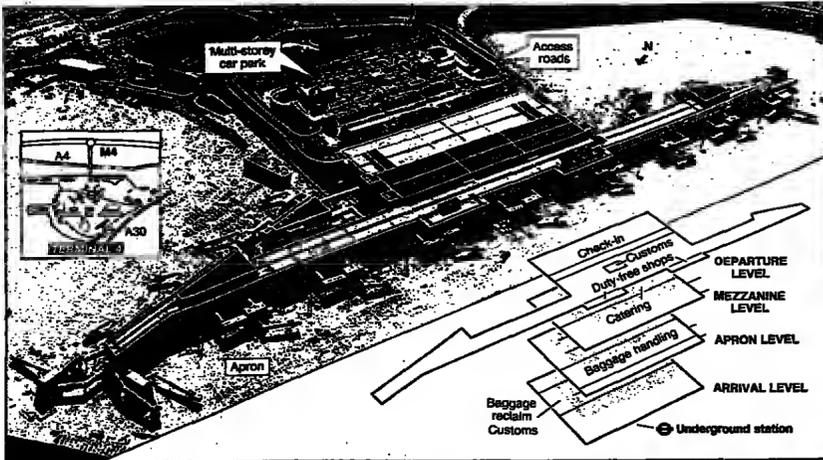
In one recent case, a Scottish dealer was sent to prison after being found guilty of "clocking" more than 700 mileage fleet cars.

But Mr Wright said during the past few years the average fine imposed by the courts for "clocking" offences was between £600 and £700. By contrast, the unscrupulous trader reaps an illegal profit of more than £1,000 for an average 30,000 to 39,000 mile clocking.

The Motor Agents Association yesterday dismissed some of the claims contained in the report as highly dubious.

"We are as concerned about clocking as anyone else, because traders can suffer from it just as much as consumers. But it is nonsense to suggest that it is widespread as the report makes out."

The Automobile Association said motorists could safeguard themselves by having an AA or the Royal Automobile Club vehicle inspection before buying a second-hand car.



Air terminal security doubt

By Michael Bailly, Transport Editor

Doubts were raised about anti-terrorist measures at Heathrow Airport's new terminal four at the eve of its public opening yesterday.

In a last-minute visit to the £200 million terminal, Mr Michael Spicer, Under Secretary of State for Transport responsible for aviation, said there would be no automatic X-ray checks on passengers' heavy baggage, although this is thought to have been a key to past airport terrorist attacks.

Mr Spicer said mobile X-ray equipment in the terminal building would be used to deal with particular threats when they arose. Passengers and hand-baggage would be

screened automatically on entering the huge departure hall.

He said security at Heathrow generally was "superb". While it was not possible to provide full protection, "every single device one can think of has been employed here to ensure that the terminal is secure".

The terminal was due to open for traffic at 5.40am today with the arrival of a British Airways flight from Dakar in the Middle East. The airport's south runway was closed for more than seven hours last night as a 1,000-vehicle convoy transferred aircraft, staff and equipment half a mile from terminals one and three.

British Airways, which will use about 90 per cent of the terminal's capacity, will employ 2,000 staff to service 80 flights daily and about 6.5 million passengers a year.

The terminal was opened by the Prince and Princess of Wales last week, and is Britain's biggest single airport development, and will raise passenger capacity at Heathrow from 30 million to 38 million a year.

Other airlines using the terminal are KLM and NLM, of The Netherlands, and Air Malta. All British Airways intercontinental flights, including Concorde and flights to Paris and Amsterdam, will operate from the terminal.



Mr Spicer yesterday

Winning shares in Portfolio Gold cards

Portfolio Gold, the relaunched version of *The Times* popular daily competition based on share prices, starts on Monday.

To be in the running, make sure you have a Portfolio Gold card, as the old blue cards will be invalid after today's game.

Supplies have been made available to newsagents this week, and there will be a gold card in every copy of *The Sunday Times* colour magazine tomorrow.

Portfolio Gold

If you experience difficulty in obtaining a gold card, send an s.a.a. to: Portfolio Gold, The Times, PO Box 40, Blackburn, BB1 6AJ.

Remember that there will now be £4,000 at stake every day and the prizemoney will accumulate each day that it is not won. Similarly, the new weekly prize of £8,000 will be doubled each week that it is not claimed.

Portfolio Gold is expected to substantially increase demand for *The Times* and readers are advised to make sure their copies are ordered at the newsagents.

Business micros up by 25%

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

One in five small businesses has a microcomputer, an increase of nearly a quarter in 12 months, with a preference being shown for British-made machines, according to a survey of the industry.

However, the study by Gowling Marketing Services, which conducts the survey, predicts that sales of micros are unlikely to exceed last year's level. There are more than one million small businesses in the United Kingdom.

The most popular micros are the BBC/Acorn models commanding 17 per cent of the market. The remaining principal suppliers are Commodore - with 15 per cent, ACT - Sirius/Aprium - with 9 per cent, and IBM with 9 per cent.

But the small businesses are becoming increasingly conscious of computing power. In addition to the owners of microcomputers a further 6 per cent have access to computer terminals connecting them to a large computer system.

Crash family wins damages

The family of a man who died in a car crash three years ago was awarded £100,000 damages at the High Court yesterday.

Mr Andrew Phipps, aged 29, of Headington, Oxford, was driving on the A415 near Witney, Oxfordshire, when he was involved in a collision with another car. Damages were awarded against the other car driver, Mr Timothy Peters, of Worthing, West Sussex, who denied negligence, but consented to judgement.

Telephone 'hotline' on bad driving instructors

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

The Driving Instructors Association (DIA) has opened a telephone "hotline" to collect evidence from learner drivers which could lead to prosecutions of "cowboy" instructors.

The move, announced yesterday, comes after a large increase in the number of complaints against instructors.

Mr Graham Fryer, the DIA's chief executive, said a small minority of irresponsible instructors was causing problems. These included ab-

Mothers' weight link with cancer

By Our Science Correspondent

Pregnant women who are overweight risk passing testicular cancer to their unborn sons, a leading scientist said yesterday.

The women produce extra amounts of the female hormone, oestrogen, which affects the hormonal balance of the child and is a risk factor in cancer of the testicles, Professor Malcolm Pike told a British Medical Association conference in Oxford.

Women who are 30 pounds overweight are three times more likely to have a son who develops testicular cancer, usually by the age of 30, Professor Pike, director of a

Beaming in on the hijackers

By Our Transport Editor

British Telecom has introduced a new weapon against hijackers and billion robbers which uses a network of radio beacons fixed to lamp posts, and in-vehicle navigation systems.

The system, called Pinpoint, uses battery-operated beacons, about six inches square, and installed on up to 1,500 lamp posts at two-kilometre intervals, and enables fleet operators to pinpoint the position of any of their vehicles to within 50 metres, anywhere inside the M25 orbital motorway.

If a van is hijacked, control continues to follow its track, enabling rapid police interception.

Subscribers - initially expected to be mainly security and courier firms - will face capital costs of £1,000 a vehicle, and up to £1 million for a private control room, plus £100 a year rental for each vehicle.

'Satanist' admits to trickery

Derry Mainwaring Knight, a self-styled satanist, admitted at Maidstone Crown Court yesterday that he had studied salesmanship and had used "his powers of confidence trickery".

But he claimed that was only in his "criminal career" in the past before he committed himself to God to free himself from satanism.

Mr Knight yesterday faced cross-examination from Mr Michael Corkery, QC, for the prosecution, on his third day in the witness box in the "satanic cult" trial.

Mr Knight, aged 46, an unemployed painter and decorator from Dornansland, Surrey, denies 19 charges of obtaining more than £200,000 by deception from committed Christians. He claims he needed the money to buy satanic regalia to free himself from the control of the devil, but it is alleged he spent it on fast cars and women.

Asked by Mr Corkery if he had used his "powers of confidence trickery" to get people to part with their money, Mr Knight replied: "Certainly in my criminal career".

Mr Knight said there had been one occasion when the Rev John Baker, rector of Newick, Sussex, who had raised the £200,000 for him, had refused him money to buy an item with satanic connections.

When Mr Knight was answering questions from Mr Michael West, QC, defence counsel, Mr Baker was cautioned by the judge for shaking and nodding his head towards Mr Knight from the public gallery.

The hearing continues on Monday.

Upsurge in Dalkon claims

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A large number of British women have lodged claims against the American manufacturers of the Dalkon Shield contraceptive device during the past few weeks, bringing the total number of claimants to some 1,500.

The increase, with only three weeks to go before the April 30 deadline for claims, has come about largely through the efforts of the West Midlands health authority.

The authority has alerted women to their right to make a claim against the manufacturer of the intra-uterine device, A H Robins, and has invested several thousand pounds in advertising.

Mr Ian Paterson, the region's solicitor, said yesterday: "In three weeks we have been contacted by 532 women and we are registering claims for them in the United States bankruptcy court."

"We believe we have a contraceptive advisory role as well as the duty of after-care for people suffering from illness."

The company, of Richmond, Virginia, stopped selling the tiny device in 1974, when it was the biggest-selling intra-uterine device in the world. But doctors were not advised until 1980 to remove it from women.

Mr Paterson said yesterday that there were still women coming forward who were using it.

The alleged results of using the device include: septic abortion, pelvic inflammatory disease, ectopic pregnancy, and even death. Compensation could be up to many thousands of pounds.

Because the claims are being brought under the American contingency fee system, under which the English lawyers will also be paid in their role as agents for the American lawyers, claims can be made even where women cannot obtain legal aid.

An estimated 90,000 women used the Dalkon Shield in Britain. But because of worldwide litigation, the manufacturers filed for re-organization under American bankruptcy laws last August. As a result, the amount of damages they pay out in future claims will be limited.

Women can contact the Dalkon Shield Association at 24 Patshill Road, London NWS.

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Changes made

Smiles all round as Bill to help disabled gets through

COMMONS

There were congratulations all round as the Disabled Persons (Services, Consultation and Representation) Bill completed its remaining stages in the Commons in what Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister for Health, described as a historic day in the development of the legislative structure for the provision of services for disabled people.

The Bill's sponsor Mr Thomas Clarke (Monklands, West Lab) was cheered when he said it had been an incredible and inspiring experience to introduce the Bill in November.

Despite earlier predictions of controversy over certain aspects of the Bill the various amendments, some bringing considerable changes to the original proposals, were agreed without division thus ensuring that the measure was not lost through lack of time.

Mr Clarke said the result of an excellent Bill in the interests of 2.5 million disabled people.

While not as radical as he would have wished, it nevertheless represented a basis for the future.

The Government had raised the question of the resource implications on a number of occasions, but the Treasury should remember it was not the other way round. It should not try to thwart the objectives of the House.

Mr Clarke said the Government endorsed the principles enshrined in the Bill. The measure would genuinely help improve services for the disabled without imposing onerous and impracticable burdens on local authorities.

When there were sufficient resources the Government would bring the provisions into effect soon after Royal Assent.

Earlier during the report stage of the bill's sponsor, Mr Thomas Clarke, said that the bill, just before and after a disabled child left school was critical to his or her future and could also be available at this traumatic time.

assessment of the needs of the disabled child for the provision of any statutory services for the child within a period of not more than six months.

The proposal would also allow similar assessments to be made in Scotland.

Mr Peter Thurnham (Bolton North East, C), supporting the new clause, asked the Government to pay particular attention to the need to provide adequate back-up and after care services. If families were to adopt or foster disabled children they needed to know this help was available.

Mr Alfred Morris, Opposition spokesman on the disabled, said they supported the new clause. There was a need for resolve in approaching the Bill, he said, to ensure it remained as strong and viable as possible. The proposed new clause was a modest step forwards.

Mr Jack Ashley (Stoke-on-Trent South, Lab) said disabled children leaving school were going to be at a critical time of their lives and assessment of their needs was vital.

Mr Barney Hayhoe said he would accept the new clause on the basis, clearly, that further discussions would be needed. He hoped Mr Clarke and his advisers would join in the talks, perhaps with local authorities, to consider the technicalities.

The new clause was agreed to.



Clarke: Assessments for those in care

Mr Clarke then moved a new clause to require hospitals to give an assessment before discharging people who had received inpatient treatment for a mental disorder for at least six months.

He said it was not sufficient to require hospitals to notify the social services about the discharge.

Mr Clarke's new clause, said ministers, was successive governments had for years pressed for assessment of patients being considered for discharge.

He had known many cases where people had had to be readmitted to hospital because there was no knowledge by the local authority of their discharge from hospital. This could be

costly as well as inhumane. Mr Hayhoe said he would certainly not oppose adoption of Mr Clarke's new clause. It followed the basic structure of a Government new clause which he would, in the circumstances, not be moving.

The clause in the Bill as it stood would introduce procedures which were unnecessarily prescriptive and cause problems in practice. Mr Clarke's clause would certainly avoid some of the objectionable features of that in the Bill, in particular the 28 day minimum period for notification disappeared, as did the formula for adding up periods for short-term care in hospital.

Mr Clarke's new clause was agreed to.

The Government had accepted the strength of view expressed during the consultation exercise in favour of extending the right of representation of the disabled to health authorities as well as local authorities, but there were practical difficulties to overcome, Mr Hayhoe said in moving a new Government clause.

The new clause, he said, would allow local authorities to permit the authorised representative of a disabled person, if requested, to act in connection with the provision of the authority of any welfare service.

Further, it would allow the authorised representative to accompany the disabled person to a meeting or interview held by or on behalf of the authority in connection with the provision of social services. It would also ensure that all necessary information and documents were made available to the representative.

The permission applied only when requested by the disabled person and a local authority could bar a representative from any involvement in a particular case if it would be harmful to the interests of the disabled person.

Mr Ashley said it would be wrong to exclude representation in the case of health services.

The new clause was agreed to and the report stage concluded.

The Drainage Rates (Disabled Persons) Bill, which restores to disabled persons relief from drainage rates, passed its remaining stages. The Gaming (Amendment) Bill was read a second time.

Mr Lewis Carter-Jones (Eccles, Lab) said it would be refined and amended. It seemed many mentally ill patients needed regular contact with a caring person - someone who did not necessarily have to be highly skilled.

Mr Patrick Thompson (Norwich North, C) said an excellent series of articles in The Times by Marjorie Wallace described the problems of families with children who had become mentally ill.

Mr Jack Ashley said that of 15,000 mentally handicapped people leaving hospital, more than 10,000 had been there for more than two years.

You cannot expect them (he said) to come out without being assessed and given resources. That is not, as Mr Carter-Jones said, refined cruelty, it is unrefined cruelty.

Mrs Edwina Currie (South Derbyshire, C) said the Bill with wise amendment, would be of considerable assistance to disabled people.

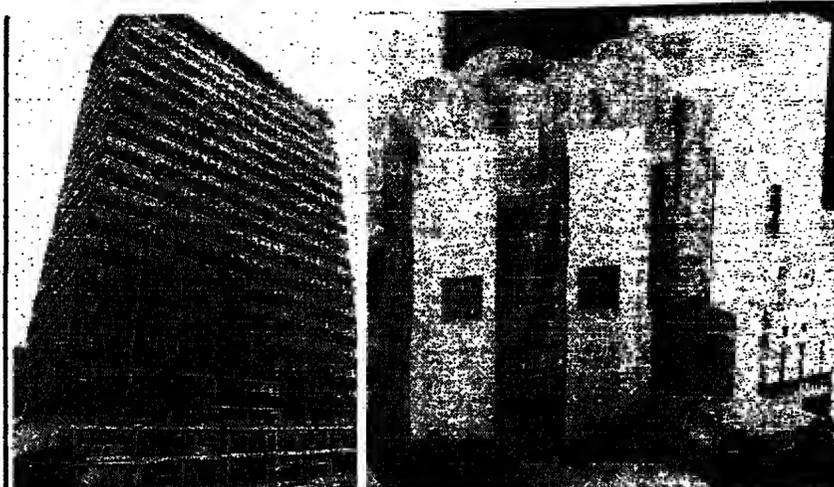
Mr Alfred Morris, supporting Mr Clarke's new clause, said ministers were successive governments had for years pressed for assessment of patients being considered for discharge.

He had known many cases where people had had to be readmitted to hospital because there was no knowledge by the local authority of their discharge from hospital. This could be

open to fines.

Where students were charged with criminal offences they should be expelled from the university without any further questions asked.

He recalled that he had physically attacked during a speaking engagement at Bradford University and was prevented from speaking at Oxford University.



Lee House (left), which is to make way for the new scheme shown in the model (Photographs: John Voss).

£65m gateway to Barbican planned

Plans were unveiled yesterday to demolish Lee House, a 1960s office block at London Wall in the City, and replace it, at a cost of £65 million, with two new buildings, one of which would span the neighbouring dual carriageway (Charles Knevitt writes).

Mr Terry Farrell, the architect who has recently presented schemes for improving the South Bank arts complex and developing the area around Charing Cross Station, has designed the development for MEPC, the property company. It will be known as Alban Gate.

A planning application will be submitted soon and negotiations will be held with the Corporation of the City of London for the "air rights" over the road.

Lee House, built in 1964, contains 184,000 sq ft of offices. The new linked scheme will contain 335,000 sq ft of offices, as well as shops, restaurants, housing, a new livery hall, and a Barbican tourist and information office.

Mr Christopher Benson, vice-chairman and managing director of MEPC, described Lee House as "an ugly and empty building which has outlived its usefulness". It is thought to be the first post-war office block in London to be totally demolished.

Alban Gate, at 17 storeys, will be about the same height as the existing glass-walled "slab" blocks near by, and is likely to be clad in decorative polished granite.

rescue what is generally regarded as one of the most disastrous examples of post-war architecture and planning in London, by creating a truly urban setting for people using, or living near, the offices. The scheme will also reinforce the link between the City and the Barbican.

He suggested that Alban Gate would be a new entrance to the Barbican, and the location of an information office within the scheme would help people to find their way around the complex.

An exhibition explaining the proposals opens at Lee House, Monkwell Square, City of London, on Monday, and closes on Friday, April 18. It will be open from noon to 2pm and 5pm to 7pm.

Fire at historic station

By a Staff Reporter

Britain's best preserved and most historic Victorian railway station was partly destroyed by fire yesterday, less than six months after being restored.

The fire, started by an electrical fault, caused more than £100,000 of damage as it ripped through Great Malvern station in Worcestershire.

The station was used by Sir Edward Elgar, the composer, who lived in the town, Bernard Shaw, who visited him, and Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, who visited his daughters at their boarding school.

Court threat over Europe air fares

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government yesterday threatened to take its European Community partners and their national airlines to the European Court unless they agree by the end of the year to open up European air routes and fares to greater competition.

In the strongest warning yet uttered in the long-running battle about the liberalization of air services, Mr Michael Spicer, Minister for Aviation, accused EEC governments and their airlines of running roughshod over the Treaty of Rome.

He said: "We are no longer willing to see this continue. It flies directly in the face of the basic principles of the Common Market. Either the matter is resolved this year in the Council of Ministers or there will be no option left except to

Skin virus hits more patients

By a Staff Reporter

Three more people in Nottinghamshire hospitals have been affected by the skin virus, MRSA, bringing the total to 24, nine of whom have died.

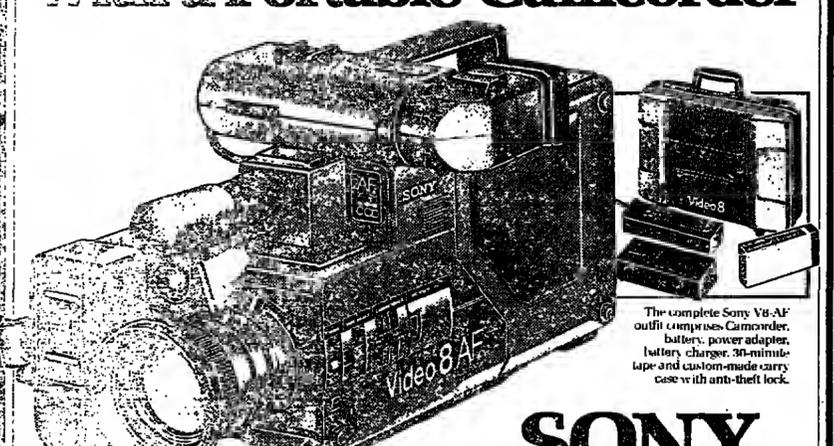
The virus first affected Nottingham's Queens Medical Centre, the Mansfield General and the Victoria Hospital at Mansfield.

As a result, a Mansfield general hospital ward has been shut and patients with the virus have been transferred to Kings Mill Hospital near by. Patients at the Victoria Hospital have been put in isolation. The Queens Medical Centre has rid itself of the virus.

Dr Alan Mounsey, the Nottinghamshire district medical officer, emphasized that MRSA, was not solely responsible for the deaths.

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Mixed fortunes for two Old Masters

By Geraldine Norman Sale Room Correspondent

Lord Coke and the trustees of the Holkham estate did not emerge from yesterday's Old Master sale at Christie's as rich as they had hoped.

Two great Italian paintings collected by his connoisseur ancestor, the first Lord Leicester, in the early eighteenth century, had been sent for sale. The grander of the two was Mattia Preti's "Adoration of the Magi". Christie's had expected a price of about £500,000, but it was bought in at £380,000.

The painting was surface cleaned before it was sent to an exhibition in Washington in 1983 and this had shown some damage. If it had been in what is known as "English country house condition" - covered with a dirty yellow varnish - it would probably have found a buyer more easily.

The second Holkham picture was a very rare sixteenth-century Mannerist work, "The Madonna and Child with Saints Helen and Francis" by Amico Aspertini, which sold for £345,600. Christie's had been talking of £300,000. Italian Mannerism, with its elaborate distortions made for decorative effect, is very much

in vogue and this was a fine example.

The Tate Gallery acquired a view of Poteffract castle, where Richard II was murdered, which originally belonged to the collection of Charles I. It is one of a set of 10 views of royal residences commissioned by Charles I from the Flemish landscapist, Alexander Kierinx. It cost the gallery £16,200 (estimate £8,000-£12,000).

The sale was very erratic. Many good pictures attracted no interest and were left unsold. A stormy marine painting by Ludolf Backhuysen, "The River Ij at

Amsterdam", sold for £183,600 against an estimate of £60,000-£80,000. In contrast, a busy and colourful marine by Willem van de Velde the Younger, "A Dutch States yacht under sail", was left unsold at £160,000 (estimate £200,000-£300,000).

A Chardin still life which was sold off by the Metropolitan Museum, New York, in 1973 under the impression that it was a replica was subsequently restored to the artist's oeuvre by scholars, but it failed to sell at £85,000 (estimate £100,000-£150,000).

The sale totalled £2,774,000 with 42 per cent unsold.

Science Report Daisy, a sea creature with 10 sex organs

From a Special Correspondent, Wellington

What creature has no stomach, stores food in its feet and has 10 sexual organs?

The answer, according to Australian and New Zealand scientists, is the "Sea Daisy", a bizarre form of marine life which has been discovered living in waterlogged wood deep under the ocean.

It is classed by the scientists as an echinoderm, one of the family which includes starfish, sea eggs, brittle stars and sea cucumbers. Until now it had been assumed that all classes of echinoderm had been discovered.

But a scientific paper announcing the discovery has been accepted by the journal Nature, one of its authors has said.

The Sea Daisy, named after its daisy-like shape, stores food in its feet, has no stomach and lives in a soup of bacteria in the holes of wood, lying 1,000 metres (3,000 feet) under the sea.

specialist in starfish; and Dr Frank Rowe of the Australian Museum in Sydney.

Dr Baker gave a preview of the find to New Zealand scientists at a joint meeting in Wellington of the Royal Society and the Victoria University zoology department.

Round and wafer-like, measuring between two millimetres and six millimetres across, sea daisies are unusual because of their circular shape. Their scientific name, which will not be used until printed in Nature, dwells on their roundness.

Dr Baker said that unlike all other echinoderms, the sea daisy's tube feet were in one complete ring round the lower edge of the body. He said this ring of feet was unknown in the biological world and was apparently used to store food in place of a stomach.

A thin membrane stretches across the underneath of its body, like plastic film across an upside-down saucer. This is lined with food-absorbing cells like those found on stomach linings.

The paper's authors are Dr Alan Baker, the New Zealand National Museum's assistant director; Dr Helen Rotstan, a research associate, who is a

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President Reagan raises the stakes on two world fronts

Embassies are warned of a US strike on Libya tonight

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Western embassies in the Arab world have been told that a United States strike against Libya might come late tonight or before dawn on Sunday.

The Egyptians are particularly fearful of the consequences, arguing publicly that a grave political error by Washington could have incalculable effects in Cairo and other Arab capitals. As Egypt's former Ambassador to Cairo, I put it at a lecture in Oklahoma on Thursday: "While the United States has interests in the Middle East, we live in the Middle East and our future life is dependent on these policies. You can afford one operation that fails and you leave. But we stay; we are stuck."

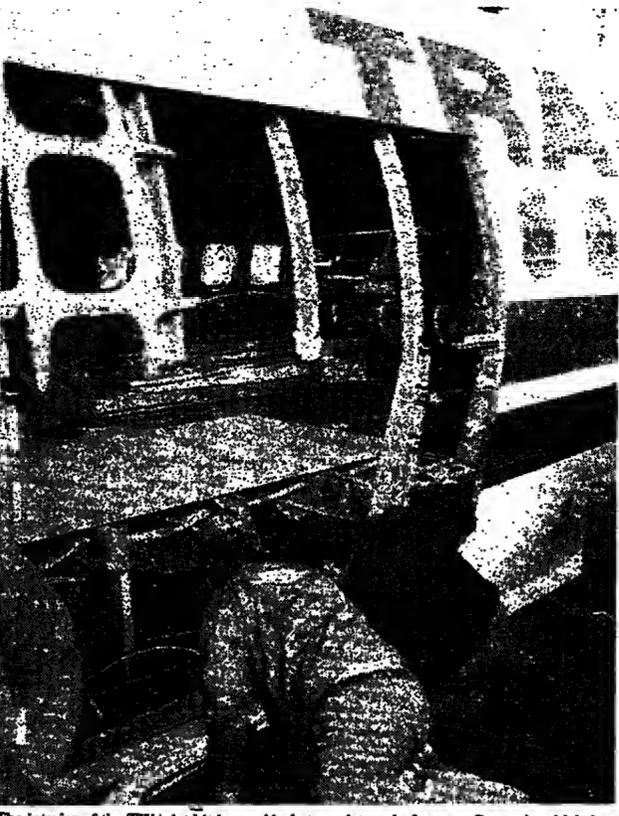
What the pro-Western Arab states — Egypt, Jordan and most of the Gulf states — particularly fear is a repeat performance of the sort of mistakes Washington made in Lebanon between 1982 and 1984; that sheer ignorance of the political conditions of the Arab world will precipitate a catastrophe from which neither Mr Reagan nor the Arabs themselves could walk away as easily as they did from the debacle in Beirut.

A respected Arab academic in Beirut suggested yesterday that the Americans were unconsciously — although in some cases deliberately — preparing their people for a military adventure against Colonel Gaddafi.

"Striking at Gaddafi will solve nothing," he said. "The Israelis are encouraging the Americans to do that because it serves their ends. But do you think that another attack on Libya will stop desperate people hijacking planes and planting bombs? When the Americans deal evenhandedly with the Middle East, these problems will all end."

There is, in truth, a mutual incomprehension between Arabs and Americans that the US-Libyan confrontation is already accentuating. While Americans condemn what they regard as pro-Palestinian or pro-Libyan terrorism, Arabs condemn what they see as pro-Israeli terrorism.

If the killings of 20 innocent Westerners at Rome and Vienna airports were the acts of pro-Libyan "terrorists", they ask, why do the Americans not accept that the killings of hundreds of equally innocent Palestinians at Sabra and Chatila camps were acts of pro-Israeli "terrorists"?



The interior of the TWA jet hit by a mid-air terrorist explosion over Greece in which four lives were lost. Athens technicians are repairing the 10ft by 3ft hole in its fuselage.

Democrats vent anger at latest Nevada test blast

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Leading congressional Democrats in the United States have angrily criticized Thursday's underground nuclear explosion in the Nevada desert.

Senator Edward Kennedy said the Administration was squandering one of the best opportunities in years to achieve a comprehensive test ban treaty.

Representative Edward Markey said: "This may be one small bomb in the desert, but it's a big bomb for arms control."

Greenpeace, the international anti-nuclear organization, declared: "The reverberations from this blast will be felt around the world for many years to come." This act showed the true hypocrisy of President Reagan's stand on arms control.

The House of Representatives Rules Committee agreed late on Thursday to permit a full vote on legislation that would ban further US nuclear weapons testing until the President certified to Congress that the Soviet Union had resumed such testing.

Meanwhile, Moscow's announcement that it is ending its eight-month moratorium on nuclear tests came as no surprise to Administration officials.

The Soviet Union has made clear in recent days that it would be free to resume its own testing programme once the US carried out another underground nuclear blast.

The Reagan Administration has said it will continue its programme because it is essential to test the reliability of modern nuclear weaponry.

President Reagan has insisted that there must be adequate verification for any comprehensive test ban treaty with the Soviet Union.

He has invited Mr Mikhail Gorbachev to send experts to the Nevada test site to observe new American detection systems, but the Soviet leader has turned the offer down.

The 1963 partial nuclear test ban treaty prohibits tests in the atmosphere, outer space and under water, where there is danger of radioactive pollution. But it does not ban underground blasts.

Full Weinberger text leaked to magazine

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The full text of a memorandum from Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, to President Reagan, which caused embarrassment shortly before last November's summit with Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, because of the hard line it advocated, has been leaked to the magazine *Encounter*.

Extracts were leaked to the American press, but this is thought to be the first time that the full text has become available publicly.

In it, Mr Weinberger warns the President of the advantages which the Soviet Union has gained from breaching existing international agreements.

He says: "To our current negotiations with the Soviets, we have worked to devise positions that take account of the verification and compliance problems we have faced in connection with existing treaties. But these steps, however sensible, cannot impose a substantial cost on the Soviet Union for its violations; even more important, they have not negated the special military advantages the Soviets have created for themselves through their violations."

"A failure on the part of the United States to respond strongly to the Soviet Union's policy of treaty violation would damage our interests in various ways. It would signal the kind of uncertainty and political weakness that invites adversaries to put one further to the test, and it could be taken as recantation of our findings of violation, thereby undermining our credibility."

Uefa scorn at Heysel cup final security

Zurich (Reuters) — The European Football Union (Uefa) has attacked Belgian security forces for being partly to blame for the tragedy before the European Cup Final at the Heysel stadium in Brussels which claimed 39 lives.

A report, to be presented by the Uefa general secretary, Herr Hans Bangerter, to a Uefa congress in Portugal, says: "The English vandals would never have been able to perform such terrible deeds and create such misery if they had not been helped by the frightful incompetence of the Belgian security forces."

English clubs were banned indefinitely from Uefa matches after the violence at the final between Liverpool and Juventus last May.

Feeling the pinch ...

Hong Kong (Reuters) — Cheung Yun-fuk, aged 33, blamed his uncontrollable right thumb for repeated indecent assaults on women. It was not his fault that it pinched a woman's bottom as he helped her out of a taxi on St Valentine's Day.

The magistrate was not impressed. He jailed Cheung for nine months after hearing that he pinched the same woman in the same place a month later and had six previous convictions for the same offence.

Space 'victim'

Washington (AP) — A fisherman claims that a 20ft piece of metal fell from the sky, killed his 24-year-old son and sank their boat 37 minutes after the space shuttle Challenger exploded in January.

The 52-year-old Brazilian is asking Nasa for \$21 million (about £14.5 million) in damages. The space agency denies the claim.

French first

Paris (AP) — Doctors here have implanted the first artificial heart in France to a 25-year-old man.

Judge on trial

Essen (Reuters) — A West German judge from Dortmund who shot and paralysed a suspected burglar in his garden went on trial charged with attempted manslaughter.

West seeks technology to beat airline terror

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Western governments are accelerating research into security equipment that can outsmart terrorists by detecting metal-free explosives of the type believed to have been used in the blast that killed four passengers of a TWA jetliner over Greece.

This was disclosed to *The Times* by Mr Rodney Wallis, chief of security for the International Air Transport Association (Iata), who has just been visiting what he described as "the new Bermuda triangle" — Cairo, Athens,

Rome — to obtain first-hand information and offer governments Iata's support.

"Whenever there is an incident of this kind we always try to see if there is something new to be learnt," he said. "We are constantly reviewing general procedures in line with the activities of these criminals. We have to run to maintain our position."

Mr Wallis did not believe that in the case of the TWA attack anything new had been invented by the terrorists. However, there were certain explosives which had no metal components so they could not be identified by metal detectors. Equipment to overcome this weakness had already been developed.

"One is a vapour detector — a mechanical sniffer, you might say — that can detect the explosive from its smell," he said. The machine was already in use in Canada although research was still continuing. The other method, called "thermoluminescence activation", involved the exposure of luggage or cargo to a bombardment of neutrons. If explosive material was present, a chemical reaction was provoked. Working models of this equipment had been developed in the US but were not yet available for general use. But testing and production were now being accelerated, he said.

"Governments are spending a great deal of money in a very urgent way to develop such machinery."

Mr Wallis was speaking at the conclusion of his Athens visit during which he met Greek Government officials and inspected the crippled TWA Boeing 727 now under repair here.

There had been rumours about a lapse of security at Cairo airport in the TWA case

but Mr Wallis said he had no evidence of this, although his current mission was not to inspect airport security. "They are applying the international standards laid down by the International Civil Aviation Organization, just like Athens. This means a double security check. In that respect they are doing more than the minimum required of them."

Mr Wallis refused to comment on a proposal put before the International Federation of Airline Pilots Associations' meeting in London for a boycott of countries harbouring terrorists.

Traffic in babies uncovered

Rio de Janeiro (Reuters) — Police believe an international ring is involved in baby trafficking after two failed attempts to adopt Brazilian infants illegally, a federal police spokesman said yesterday.

On Thursday police in the north-eastern state of Alagoas intervened in the case of a four-month-old baby boy who was to be delivered to a couple in Italy, the spokesman said.

Last month, police recovered a 20-day-old boy who was to go to Israel after being "adopted" by an Israeli couple who made a stopover in New York City. US immigration officials discovered the baby's passport had been forged.

Brazilian police have been trying to identify his real mother and arrest an Argentine suspected of having been paid \$7,000 (£4,700) by the Israeli couple.

"We think the case in Alagoas had no connection with last month's, but we believe an international gang is involved with baby trafficking to Brazil," the spokesman said. He declined to elaborate.

Adoption by foreign families is legal in Brazil if a qualified judge approves of the arrangement and federal police issue a passport for the youngster, a Justice Ministry spokesman said.

Man in dock shot by victim's father

Sao Francisco (Reuters) — The father of a murder victim leaped over a courtroom railing yesterday, yelled "you miserable..." and shot and seriously wounded the man on trial for his daughter's murder.

Police said that Daniel Morgan, in court for a pre-trial hearing on a charge of having murdered 17-year-old Sarah Spiegelman, was sitting beside his lawyers at the defence table when Mr Jack Spiegelman opened fire.

Mr Spiegelman, of Los Angeles, had been sitting in the first row of the spectator section behind the defence table.

Police said he yelled something like "you miserable..." as the shots were fired. He then dropped the gun and said: "I give up."

Sarah Spiegelman was shot dead on March 6, 1983, as she walked through Gate Park with a black friend.

Prosecutors said her murder was racially motivated.

Lebanese kidnappers seize Irish teacher after Frenchman escapes

From Our Own Correspondent, Beirut

Lebanese kidnappers lost one of their captives but probably gained another yesterday.

Only hours after M Michel Brian was freed during a dramatic gun battle in the Bekaa Valley, the American University in Beirut reported the disappearance of Mr Brian Keenan.

Mr Keenan, born in Belfast and aged 35, is a lecturer in English at the college.

As an Irishman — Northern Ireland citizens are entitled to hold Republic of Ireland passports — he is unlikely to be of much use to the kidnappers. There are no Arabs imprisoned in Ireland whose release could be demanded in return for his, and the last time an Irish citizen — Mr Aidan Walsh, an official of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency — was abducted to Beirut, he was freed when his captors discovered his nationality.

Mr Brian, the French school teacher, was abducted in West Beirut on Tuesday, west his escape to freedom in the early

hours of yesterday to a group of rabbit hunters from the local Dendash family in the Bekaa Valley.

Safely in the hands of Syrian Army officers after his three-day ordeal, M Brian described how the hunters saw him.

Dendashis, who had, rather unconventionally, taken Soviet-made automatic weapons on their hunting mission, fired back and so frightened the gunmen that they pushed M Brian from their vehicle and drove away.

If his release had about it an element of farce, there was, however, nothing humorous about his account of the kidnapping. "From the time I was kidnapped, I did not see any faces," he said.

"... I was walking near a florist shop on Makdissi Street off Hamra. A gunman with a thick black beard came up to me and said in English: 'Doo't talk. Doo't scream.' Then he pushed me into the trunk of a Renault car. We drove for about 1½ hours then we stopped. They put me in the trunk of another car, a bigger car, and we drove for about an hour."

M Brian was delighted to meet his rescuers. When told they were on a rabbit hunting expedition in the early hours, he said he replied: "Well, you've got some rabbit".

The kidnappers began shooting at the hunters but the



Mr Keenan: Left for work but failed to show up.

Reagan's Belize envoy rejected in Senate

Washington — The Senate foreign relations committee, in a rare move, has rejected President Reagan's nomination of Mr James Malone as ambassador to Belize (Mohsin Ali writes).

Democratic senators alleged that Mr Malone had falsely testified to the committee in the past.

The committee defeated Mr Malone's nomination by one vote to seven, and then narrowly rejected a move by

Tight suits give women little space

Zvezdny Gorodok, Soviet Union (Reuters) — Moscow will not send women cosmonauts on long missions to its orbiting stations until facilities for space travel are more advanced.

Mr Grigory Bergovoy, deputy head of the cosmonauts' training programme, said yesterday. He said Soviet research had shown that women were likely to experience blood problems in space caused by wearing tight, vacuum-sealed spacesuits.

Peres sorts out the reshuffle

From David Bernstein, Jerusalem

Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, yesterday met Mr Yitzhak Shamir, leader of the Likud party, to finalise details of the Cabinet reshuffle that defused the crisis threatening to bring down the national unity Government.

Likud ministers late on Thursday endorsed a reshuffle that moves the Finance Minister, Mr Yitzhak Modai, to the Foreign Ministry in place of Mr Shamir, and allows Mr Shamir the Finance portfolio. Mr Peres will be replaced in October in

the rotation within the coalition.

It remained unclear yesterday precisely what would happen in October, although it was understood that Finance would under no circumstances revert to Mr Modai, whom Mr Peres demanded should be replaced when he attacked the Prime Minister and government economic policies last weekend.

Mr Peres has made it known that he would like to take over Finance so that he can continue to play a key role in Israel's economic recovery. Under the original coalition agreement,

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Zia told violence is not the only option

Bhutto stands firm on peaceful transition to power in Pakistan

From Michael Hamlyn, Lahore

Miss Benazir Bhutto, glowing after the emotional embrace of the hundreds of thousands of supporters after her return to Pakistan, yesterday gave notice to President Zia's Government that it could be replaced without resort to violence.

"Yesterday we could have brought down this government," she said. "Yesterday, if it was our intention to have violence, if it was our intention to have had a change-over with bloodshed, if it was our intention to have a change-over with the burning of property and with the loss of lives, we could have done that."

"We could have taken power yesterday in Pakistan, but the price would have been too high. Addressing a chaotic and crowded press conference which both the foreign and local press threatened to boycott because of the conditions under which it was held — Miss Bhutto made it clear that her emphasis on the peaceful transition of herself to power was not the unanimous view of her friends.

"There are many friends who tell me," she said, "that Mr Junejo (the Prime Minister) is a facade for martial law, and that my strategy is wrong." But, she insisted, she was taking him at his word and seeking a political confrontation with him.

She said she was also prepared to cooperate with Mr Junejo's Government on elections, "because there is a civilian administration there at the moment".

Miss Bhutto added: "The civilian administration can be used in the national interest as a stepping stone for the restoration of full democracy in the country."

She urged that the Government, if it was truly democratic, bow to the will of the people and hold immediate elections. But she indicated that it would not be possible to cooperate with President Zia.

"If he goes gracefully, that would be the best thing," she said, indicating that it was not possible to guarantee that she would not take revenge against him for the execution of her father.

"I cannot tell you in black and white the answers you seek from me," she told a questioner, adding that much depended on the peaceful and graceful transition of power.

Speaking about her policies should the Pakistan People's Party — of which she is the acting chairman and undoubtedly leader — come to power, she made evident a strongly populist strain in her domestic plans, promising land to the landless, employment to the sons of subsistence farmers, and relief from water tax for the farmers themselves, as well as a minimum wage of 1,000 rupees (about £50) a month.

She accused Mr Junejo — who, on the eve of her arrival, promised free housing for squatters and land for housebuilding for the urban poor — of offering too little and too late.

On foreign policy, she offered friendship with all countries, but reserved the right to speak out against human rights violations because Pakistan had suffered from human rights abuse.



Wine makers from Italy's Lazio region hold a public tasting in a bid to offset the effects of the wine contamination scandal.

US embargoes untested Italian wine

From Moshin Ali, Washington

The US is to stop importing Italian wine that has not been tested and certified as being free of methanol contamination which has caused at least 18 deaths in Italy.

The embargo has been designed mainly to stop any Italian wine shipped before Italy halted exports after the deaths and began testing the produce for methanol.

The Treasury Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms said the action was a precautionary one and that no methanol had been

found in Italian wine in the US. Italy ships an average of 73 million gallons of wine to the US annually.

Methanol, or wood alcohol, has been added by some producers to strengthen the alcoholic content of their wines.

ROME: Tests have shown that more than 300 labels of Italian wine contained traces of potentially deadly methanol, the Health Ministry said yesterday (AP reports).

In a statement, the ministry said tests had been conducted on wine made or bottled by 20,466 different producers and 300 of them contained more

than the legal dose of methanol. It did not name the 300.

A previous danger list issued by the Agriculture Ministry named only 60 wines, most of them produced in northern Italy.

The announcement came a day after the Cabinet approved a series of tough new measures to protect consumers from being poisoned.

The measures provide for the temporary or permanent revocation — a minimum of five years — of production and selling licences, as well as the confiscation of profits and the seizure of equipment.

The government will increase the number of agents in its Anti-Adulteration Squad from 367 to 800, before the end of the year. Local officials will be given more authority to take action against suspected offenders and will be able to close down production before criminal proceedings are completed.

In addition, 30 billion lire (about £13.5 million) will be spent on modernizing and expanding laboratory facilities. Rome has also agreed to compensate all foreign buyers and consumers of tainted wine.

Tribal row threatens Mugabe's party

From Jan Raath, Harare

Long-simmering tribal conflict within the ruling Zanu (PF) party boiled over this week in Zimbabwe's House of Assembly as a likely successor to Mr Robert Mugabe as Prime Minister fought for his political life.

Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, the Transport Minister and the party's national political commissar, became its first member to expose the division publicly, a defence against allegations of mismanagement and links with corruption.

The House was incredulous when the highly articulate Dr Ushewokunze brought up the issue of tribalism. Under Mr Mugabe it has become a subject to be avoided at all costs.

The conflict between the Zezuru-speaking group from the north-east and the powerful Karanga-speakers of the south is seen as the most serious threat to the party's strength and unity since before independence in 1980.

It was expected to continue with increased bitterness out of the public eye at a meeting of the party's 90-member Central Committee at Mr Mugabe's official residence.

Dr Ushewokunze was accused in a report tabled last week by Parliament's Public Accounts Committee of running his Ministry, the national railways, and Air Zimbabwe as he pleased. He was blamed for putting relatives and friends in jobs, instituting anti-white campaigns and giving a less-than-satisfactory account of his links with the fraudulent sale of railway property.

His five-hour defence on Wednesday and Thursday included attacks of unprecedented venom on accounts committee members, the Auditor-General, MPs and railway officials, chiefly whites.

He said the committee's attack represented "the thin edge of the wedge of a grand strategy by a given region of Zimbabwe which prides itself on being the chosen tribal grouping of this country".

Without naming the Karangas, he said they had seen him as a "spanner in the works in their jockeying for tribal political control" and had constantly plotted his



Mr Ushewokunze: Victim of 'grand strategy'

downfall. They were planning to "pounce on me and kill me".

Dr Edmond Zvobgo, the Justice Minister and a powerful figure from the Karanga area, appealed to Mr Mugabe in the Chamber, speaking in Shona and English: "It is now all in the open. You cannot allow your minister to continue like this. I am that Karanga."

Mr Mugabe was present through much of the parliamentary debate but did not take part.

Troops go on trial for murder

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Four black members of the South African Defence Force (SADF) have appeared in court in the Lebowa tribal "homeland" in the north-eastern Transvaal charged with the murder of six black youths killed on March 28 when a hand grenade was thrown into a shebeen.

The four men, whose names have not been revealed, appeared in the Lulekani magistrate's court on Wednesday, it was belatedly confirmed yesterday by SADF headquarters in Pretoria. The proceedings were conducted in camera, and the accused were remanded until April 23.

Only a day after the hearing two grenade attacks occurred in Mankweng, also in Lebowa, in which a leading local anti-apartheid activist, Mrs Joyce Mabudafasi, and Mr Ernest Mokaba, who lived in a wooden hut not far away, were seriously injured.

Mrs Mabudafasi is the secretary of the Northern Transvaal branch of the United Democratic Front (UDF), which shares the political aims of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC), and is also an executive member of the National Education Crisis Committee. Mr Mokaba is a regional executive member of the UDF and a former denizen of Robben Island, the Alcatraz-style jail in Table Bay.

The latest events in Lebowa have reinforced the suspicions of many local residents that members of the Lebowa police, aided by SADF members, are operating covert "death squads" which are alleged to have been behind grenade attacks on anti-apartheid campaigners and their families.

The violence in Lebowa and the neighbouring "homeland" of Bophuthatswana, is symptomatic of the way in which unrest has spread in recent months to previously tranquil tribal reserves.

They were planning to "pounce on me and kill me".

Dr Edmond Zvobgo, the Justice Minister and a powerful figure from the Karanga area, appealed to Mr Mugabe in the Chamber, speaking in Shona and English: "It is now all in the open. You cannot allow your minister to continue like this. I am that Karanga."

Mr Mugabe was present through much of the parliamentary debate but did not take part.

Russians are expected to halve grain imports

Washington (Reuters) — The Soviet Union is expected to cut its grain imports by almost half this year. One reason may be the sharp drop in world oil prices, which has reduced the amount of foreign exchange available for imports, the US Agriculture Department said.

In a report on the Soviet grain crop, the US agency estimated that the Soviet Union will buy only 31 million metric tonnes of grain from all sources this year, down from 55.5 million in 1985, and the lowest figure since 1979.

The department said that reduced revenue from oil exports, a major source of foreign exchange for the Soviet Union, may have forced Moscow to cut imports.

The 1985 Soviet grain crop was an estimated 190 million tonnes, somewhat better than in 1984. Mild winter weather reduced the need for livestock grain, and grain stocks appear to have been rebuilt in the last two years.

The department said that Soviet grain buyers may be waiting until later this year, hoping that world prices will be even lower because of the grain glut.

The Soviet Union has bought only six million metric tonnes of corn this year, a third of last year's purchase. The only recent sign of Soviet activity in the world grain market has been the buying of corn and sorghum from Argentina, the department said.

Punjab police fire back

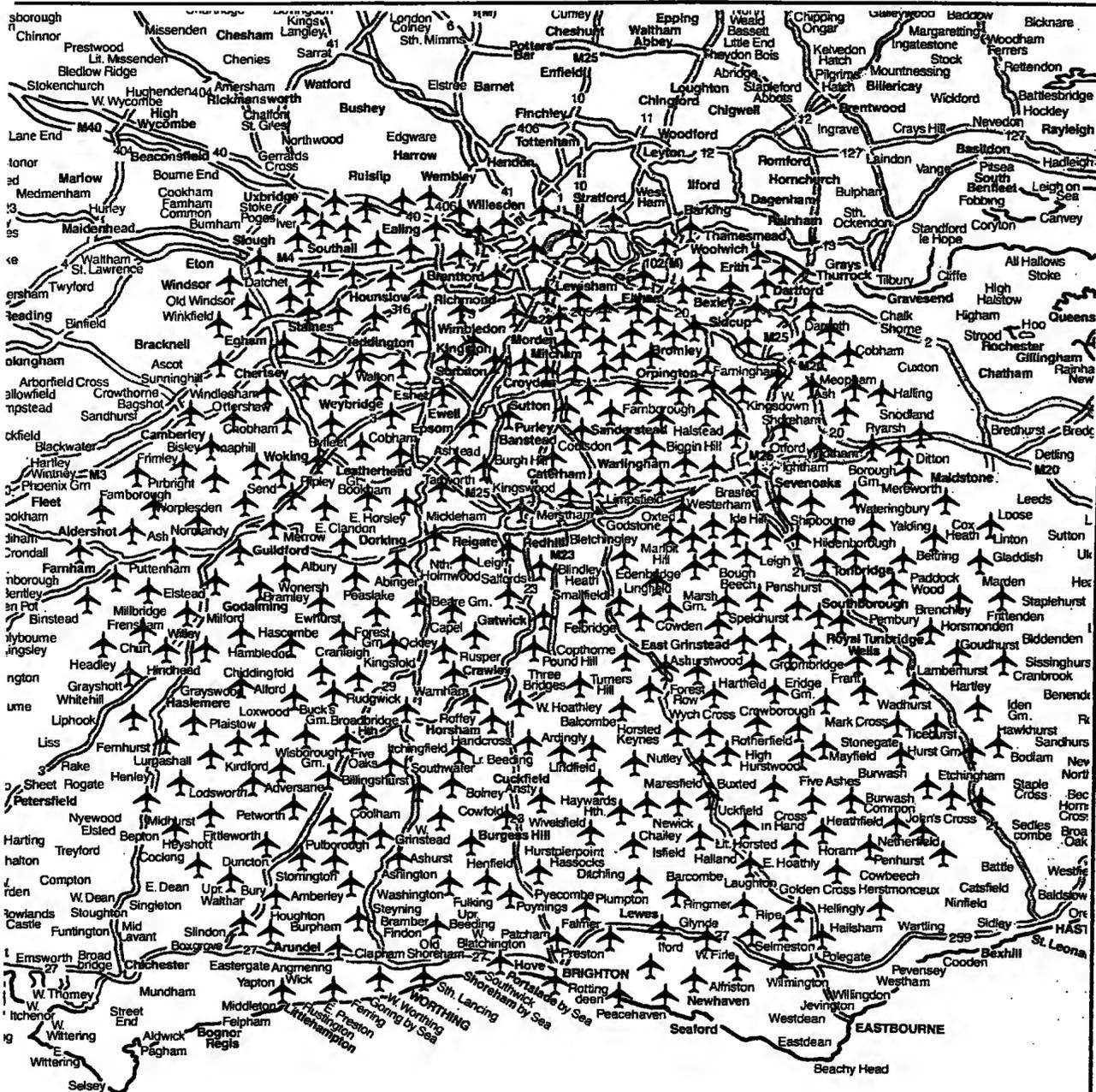
Jullundur (Reuters) — At least 11 people were shot dead in clashes between police and Sikh extremists after Punjab's police chief vowed to match gunmen bullet for bullet.

"If the terrorists are making their bit lists and hit squads we will retaliate with our own hit lists and hit squads," Mr Julio Ribeiro said in the Punjab town of Batala on Thursday. Extremists would be matched "bullet for bullet".

Punjab last month to tackle the violence which has claimed at least 130 lives in the past five weeks.

Police shot dead four extremists on Thursday as they tried to infiltrate an area near the Pakistan border known as a militant stronghold.

In another incident they killed three extremists in a raid on farmhouses near Jullundur, which has been badly hit by the violence.



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Handwritten note: "It is a bit late"

Lange hints at transfer into French custody of jailed secret agents

From Richard Long, Wellington

Mr David Lange, New Zealand's Prime Minister, yesterday hinted at the prospect of two French secret service agents jailed after the Rainbow Warrior affair being released to serve the rest of their sentences in another country — perhaps a French territory.

In separate television interviews in Australia and New Zealand, Mr Lange said substantial progress was being made in a resumed dialogue between Wellington and Paris.

French agents Dominique Prieur and Alain Mafart, jailed for 10 years for the sabotage of the Greenpeace protest ship and the death of a crew member last year, are the major stumbling blocks to improved relations, with France demanding their release and Mr Lange saying they will not be "released to freedom".

While Mr Lange has previously expressed a willingness to release the agents to France if there was a guarantee they would serve out their sentences, he has always added the rider that this was unrealistic, and that it would not be tolerated by Paris.

He added no such rider when he said in a Australian television interview that the prisoners might be released to serve their sentences in France or elsewhere. When asked what he meant by elsewhere, Mr Lange said France had a lot of territories.

In a New Zealand television interview, Mr Lange was asked how strong was the possibility of negotiating a different type of detention for the prisoners, and replied: "As strong as the assurances we could give for it."

Mr Lange said there was no novelty in his suggestion. "I

am conscious that we are trying to negotiate understanding with other countries where our citizens might serve out their sentences in New Zealand for crimes committed abroad. There is merit in that, if only for the humanitarian aspect of the families of those people."

His comment indicated a willingness to let the agents go to jails in New Caledonia or French Polynesia — ironically the territory containing France's nuclear test site at Mururoa Atoll, to which the Rainbow Warrior was to have led a protest fleet last year when it was destroyed in Auckland Harbour.

On the resumed dialogue between Wellington and Paris, Mr Lange said substantial progress had been made, but he did not expect a quick resolution.

Return of the Bard delights Chinese

Peking (AFP, Renter) —

China has opened its first Shakespeare festival, presenting 16 plays including *King Lear*, *Richard III* and *Othello*, the English-language *China Daily* said.

Thirteen Chinese theatre groups will perform during the two-week festival which opened on Thursday.

The Chinese love Shakespeare, the daily quoted the chairman of the Shakespeare Society of China, Mr Cao Yu, as saying. Shakespearean theatre was banned during the Cultural Revolution (1966-1976).

The British Ambassador, Sir Richard Evans, attended the Peking opening ceremony.

When a production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* began in Peking last month ahead of the main festival, a Chinese narrator was given the job of explaining background information to the audience.

But the *China Daily* said this was stopped after many playgoers objected, some even shouting out: "Please don't interrupt. We understand Shakespeare". The play's director, Mr Yang Zongqing, said his team had made bold changes in the lines of the play and used vivid expressions from Peking dialect.



A scene from the Chinese version of King Lear during its first festival of Shakespeare since the Cultural Revolution.

Accused Marcos man on the run

From Keith Dalton, Manila

Mr Orlando Dulay, a former parliamentarian and follower of the deposed President Marcos, escaped from military detention yesterday, a day after the Justice Ministry filed multiple murder and kidnapping charges against him.

Mr Dulay, a former military officer, was the only official of the ousted regime to have been jailed since President Aquino swept to power on February 25 after a civilian-backed military revolt.

The Defence Minister, Mr Juan Ponce Enrile, ordered a nationwide military manhunt for Mr Dulay and four alleged followers implicated in the killing of three Aquino campaign workers who disappeared in Quirino province on the eve of the hotly-disputed presidential election. Their mutilated bodies were found two days later in the neighbouring province of Nueva Viscaya.

Three men — Mr Fernando Pastor, his son, also named Fernando, and Mr Francisco Lauretta — were tortured, bound and kept under guard in Mr Dulay's garage shortly after they were reported missing, one of the assemblyman's bodyguards said in a sworn statement to the Justice Ministry.

Mr Dulay, who has denied any involvement in the killing, was on Thursday charged with three counts of murder and kidnapping. His co-accused remain at large.

After he surrendered to military authorities on March 12, Mr Dulay had special accommodation at Camp Crame, the suburban headquarters of the Philippine Constabulary, where he occupied two adjoining rooms.

Agents of the Commission on Good Government have meanwhile confiscated 15 fur coats belonging to Mrs Imelda Marcos and worth \$375,000 (£250,000).

Aquino 'manipulated'

Manila (Renter) — Unido, the party of Vice-President Salvador Laurel of the Philippines, yesterday said President Aquino was being manipulated by a clique of mysterious advisers.

"The President is not being given the true situation. I wish she would expand her consultation process down to the grass roots," Mr René Espina, the party's secretary-general, told journalists.

He said more than 50 pro-Aquino MPs were disappointed that she had abolished Parliament after pledging to retain it.

Mr Laurel, who backed last month's abolition of the National Assembly, was not at Mr Espina's press conference.

Anzus split 'a boost for Russians'

Canberra (Renter) — The US Defence Secretary, Mr Caspar Weinberger, said yesterday that the break-up of the Anzus military alliance linking the US with Australia and New Zealand could only help Soviet expansionist plans in the Pacific.

He told a National Press Club lunch that New Zealand, which has banned visits by nuclear vessels, had taken itself out of the alliance and that this was "a source of great regret and great disappointment and we hope that it is temporary".

Mr Weinberger said he had found no sympathy for New Zealand's anti-nuclear stance during a 12-day Asia-Pacific tour.

"When alliances are destroyed the Soviets can only take comfort from that," he added.

Trade surplus tops agenda

The Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, is due to arrive in the United States today for his eighth meeting with President Reagan.

The frequency of their talks since they first met officially in January 1983, indicates the importance given to their relationship. For Mr Nakasone, this weekend's meeting at Camp David is perhaps the most crucial of all.

The success of Tokyo's May summit of Western industrialised countries is crucial to Japan. But for success to be assured, Mr Nakasone must suppress any criticism of Japan's \$52 billion (about £34.7 million) trade surplus last year. Mr Reagan would be a willing accomplice — Mr

Mr Nakasone confident of convincing Mr Reagan.

relations. The thrust of the Mackawa report is the transformation of the Japanese economy from export-led growth to growth generated domestically and the opening of such industries as coal mining to foreign competition.

According to a leading Japanese economic newspaper, Mr Nakasone will tell Mr Reagan that he plans to set up a council to outline the policy before the summit. Related ministries and agencies will be expected to take the necessary measures within three months of recommendations by the council.

The ideas, though short on specifics, are far-sighted. But whether they will be implemented is another matter. They are likely to meet strong bureaucratic and political resistance.

Mr Nakasone and Mr Shinichi Abe, his Foreign Minister, are hoping the plan will help defuse complaints from American congressmen about last year's \$43.4 billion (about £29,900 million) deficit with Japan, which was 82 per cent of Japan's worldwide surplus.

Mr Nakasone will be telling one of his most critical US audiences that he expects the Japanese economy to grow at 4 per cent this year — implying that this will help soak up some of its export energy and may even provide some business for foreigners.

Though the Japanese Government is at pains to play it down, the question of its joining Mr Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) is bound to be raised. Mr Nakasone says he will remain non-committal until after he receives a report from a group of Japanese engineers sent to the US to study the project.

The question of America's anti-terrorist drive is also likely to be raised. One of the key aims of the Americans appears to be a statement on terrorism. Mr Nakasone, however, will have to tread carefully if he is not to offend Japan's friends in the Arab world.

Dockers strike

Tokyo (AFP) — Dockers yesterday staged a nationwide strike halting all container-cargo handling at nine of Japan's main ports.

Mr Tokuji Yoshida, chairman of the 56,000-member All-Japan Port and Dock Workers Federation, said negotiations with the Japan Shippers' Association for a pay rise had failed and the strike would continue until the union's demands were met.

The dockers are seeking a 10 per cent pay rise and better working conditions.

Nakasone has been looking extremely confident of late that what he has to tell the President will convince him that Japan is best off returning that will make such huge imbalances a thing of the past.

The latest weapons in his armoury are the two economic initiatives recently announced: a package of measures to stimulate the domestic economy and ease export pressures, and the Mackawa report — a medium to long-term perspective of the sort of reforms that Japan should undertake to make more of a good trading neighbour.

Mr Nakasone is convinced the US, and other summit participants, will be impressed by this his latest and most spectacular piece of public

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It means keeping your brain as agile as your body. Naturally, we expect our Officers to be physically fit. Fitness is an essential facet of command, and it's something we work at.

But leadership requires mental agility too. A Territorial Army Officer can find himself leading men from all walks of life. He needs to exercise understanding and initiative in equal quantities, in order to get the best out of people under his command.

It means commitment. Obviously, a Territorial Army Officer has to give up some of his spare time. At least eight weekends a year plus a two week camp and some weekday evenings is the basic requirement, though most of our Officers find that the more they put into the Territorial Army, the more they get out of it.

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Canada keeps cool at oil find off Halifax

From John Best, Ottawa

A new oil find off Canada's east coast has stirred excitement in the oil industry and among politicians, but not enough to guarantee that it will soon be brought into production.

The find, announced last week by the Nova Scotia provincial government, is at the Cobasset field south-west of Stable Island, about 175 miles east of Halifax. Flow rates measured more than 29,000 barrels a day, said to be a record for Canada's far-flung Atlantic Coast exploration programme.

The discovery was made by a group headed by Petro-Canada, the federal government corporation, and including Nova Scotia Resources Ltd, a provincial government corporation.

Civic leaders in Halifax, nerve centre of the Nova Scotia offshore drilling programme, hailed the discovery as a boost for an industry that has not had much to cheer about lately.

Officials explored so far off the Atlantic seaboard have generally proved less rich than had been hoped, and with the slump in world oil prices, production from even the best wells has had to be deferred.

The precise size of the Cobasset field remains to be determined. Some analysts believe that the region off the east coast may be dotted with relatively small, but high-yield, reservoirs of oil.

Mr Ron Wallace, the mayor of Halifax, is convinced that the resources are there and says they are "like money in the bank".

SPORTS DIARY Simon Barnes

Last stump is nigh

Some extravagant things have been written about Ian Botham over the years...

Seriously...

With the passing of Botham's agent Tim Hudson - he of the sweeping assertion...

Stroll on

What is Britain's most popular sport? If you are not going to be too pedantic...

Two life sentence prisoners and two prison officers at Stocken Prison in Leicestershire yesterday began an attempt to beat the world badminton donkey endurance record of 77 hours and one minute.

Recondite

As a horse called Masked Ball won at 10-1 at Haydock on Wednesday, there were idle queries as to why the name had been chosen.

Flushed out

The Rugby Football Union has turned down £40,000 from people who wanted to stage an American football match between the Chicago Bears and the Dallas Cowboys at Twickenham.

Opener

I have had such a splendid response to my request for sporting limericks that I am going to save them up and publish the best ones over the May bank holiday weekend.

Thanks and a fiver to Mrs M.W. Johnston.

BARRY FANTONI



That used to be the Goya - we're replacing it with a wall safe

Pointer to a hung parliament

by David Butler

Labour is entitled to crow at its Fulham victory. The triumph is slightly diminished because everyone expected it...

The swing of 10.8 per cent is the largest recorded since Southend in 1980. Labour won back a seat that had been theirs from 1945 to 1979...

They retained, or regained, the support of the solid blocks of council flats behind Earl's Court. But council tenants account for only 24 per cent of the voters...

But that is not enough to explain Labour's success. Its new credibility gained support in this part of London at least. The swing

from Conservative to Labour [with the Alliance barely advancing] would, repeated nationwide, put Labour on the brink of a clear majority in the Commons.

For the Conservatives the result might have been worse. For the first time in this parliament they have kept the Alliance in third place in a by-election. The 11.5 per cent fall in the Tory vote was less than in either of last year's by-elections...

For the Alliance the Fulham outcome is deeply disappointing. The city centres have always been a weak point for them but Fulham had seemed to offer an opportunity. The Militant squabbles and revulsion against other London variants of the wider left...

vote, for the first time in years, obstinately refused to advance as the campaign developed. Perhaps it suffered because the Alliance had so conspicuously shared control of the local council.

If the Fulham movement in votes were reflected nationwide, Labour would get 325 seats in the Commons, the Conservatives 262, and the Alliance 38. By-elections, however, offer only a limited guide to a general election two years later.

Labour, indeed, has a hard task. To gain a majority it needs to advance from 209 to 326 seats - a gain of 117. Since only a few of the Alliance's 25 seats are at all vulnerable to Labour, it has to take, say, 110 seats from the Conservatives. But Labour came second in only 116 of the 397 constituencies where the Conservatives won in 1983.

So, for a clear Labour victory, the party has first to ensure a swing that will secure every conceivable marginal seat in which it

is the challenger, and then it also has to claw its way from third to first place in 40-odd constituencies where voting for the Alliance is the obvious way of ousting the Conservatives.

Labour, like the Conservatives, needs a minimum of 38 per cent of the national vote to win a clear majority. But an exploration of all the likely scenarios suggests that Labour cannot win unless it is a clear 6 per cent ahead of the Conservatives. The Conservatives can survive with a mere 4 per cent lead, as these two examples of the best of narrow wins show.

Table with 3 columns: Con, Lab, All. Row A: 38%, 34%, 26%. Row B: 32%, 38%, 28%.

The distance Labour has to travel can be put in other terms. As long as the Alliance gets 25 per cent or more of the total vote Labour can win only if the Conservatives are squeezed down to 32 per cent of the total - 10 per cent less than they got in 1983.

Fulham shows Labour is recovering. But it has a long way to go. What Fulham does is to shorten the odds on a hung parliament.

The author is a fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.

Linda Christmas reports on North Korea's new open-door policy as the Great Leader seeks to establish a communist dynasty

Land of eternal Kim

Every morning it was the same. At 5.40, in the dawn light, columns of blue-clad figures jogged up and down Changgwang Street in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang.

It was not only the construction workers whose noise made a nonsense of the nation's epithet as the Land of the Morning Calm. Soon after 6am other workers formed lengthy bus queues, or began emerging from the monumental, marbled and muralled underground or wandered up from the many subways which they are instructed to use rather than cross major roads.

Not that there is much danger from traffic: there is very little, cars being reserved for officials and bicycles being few. None the less roads must not be crossed and traffic police blow shrill whistles at ignorant foreigners who do not know the rules.

At 7am a waiting siren fills the air to announce that another working day has started in the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea. A long and hard-working day to enable the country to inch further forward from the devastation of a three-year war which began in 1950 and which ended in stalemate with North and South still divided at the 38th parallel.

The division was imposed in 1945 after Korea was liberated from the Japanese - a replica, in miniature of the post-war division of Europe. The reunification war - which each side accuses the other of starting - left North and South more divided than ever, harnessed to opposing ideologies and looking as though they could never be anything but a permanent war museum.

We have heard much of the success of the South, of its impressive economic recovery culminating this week in the first official visit to Europe of President Chun, accompanied by a large delegation intent on expanding relations with the EEC. We have heard little of the progress in the North, which chose to seal itself from prying Western eyes and slave away with help from communist and non-aligned countries. This isolation has inevitably shrouded the North in mystery and established it in Western minds as a bogeyman amassing military hardware and aggravating the tension in the area.

To counteract the attention given to the South, the North is now opening its doors a little. It winces at the thought of the world focus on Seoul in the 1988 Olympics. It dislikes the idea of the South and China courting each other with contracts and contacts. It no longer wants to be ignored.

As a prelude to trade and better understanding, American journalists were the first to be invited last summer. That did not work too well. The New York Times concluded that the North was a land of numbing tedium and that there was a nation of Niebelungen Niebelheim: the story goes that its correspondent was seen kissing the ground as the train taking him to Peking crossed into China.

It cannot have been easy. The first-time visitor finds it almost impossible to acquire information and unbiased interpretation. Officials do their best but they are not as yet used to questions and requests: interviews take the form of lengthy lectures, leaving journalists scurrying to scavenge among the foreign residents for additional scraps of information. Even this is disappointing since none of the few diplomats whom I



met had bothered to learn the language and admitted that the early fascination soon turned to boredom with the company of a few hundred foreigners. They longed to move on.

Their views were much of a muckiness; they admired the spirit of nationalism and the people's capacity for hard work but were wary of much else, for example questioning the official information about the huge amount of marble used in public buildings and monuments; is it in fact marble, they ask, or some fake stuff imported from Japan?

Surface impressions are easy enough. The countryside is glorious and devoid of poverty and squalor. Pyongyang is a beautiful city, a spicily clean showplace with everything built on the grand scale, be it the Monument to Fallen Soldiers of the Peoples' Army or a maternity hospital, a Grand Peoples' Study House or a health complex which is in reality a huge beauty parlour, an assembly hall or an ice rink, an arts theatre or a museum.

It all seems a trifle excessive for a city of only two million, most of whom live in high-rise blocks of up to 20 storeys. The back streets reveal some less impressive housing, but no one will deny the vastly improved standard of living. The flat which inquisitive foreigners are shown over consists of three rooms, a kitchen and bathroom for a family of four. It has underfloor heating and is basically furnished, a colour television being the only trace of luxury. The rent amounted to not more than 2 per cent of wages, which average about £30 a month.

Children stay at home until they marry, when the daughter moves in with her husband's family and the son brings his wife to his parents' home. There are no pensions for the retired; children provide for their elderly parents. Everything else, down to school uniforms, is provided by the state. Education is highly valued, provided extensively for the gifted and pursued afterwards by the less able. It always includes a study of the writings of President Kim Il Sung, known throughout the land as The Great Leader.

The Great Leader is worshipped, and is everywhere. In the last 15 years he has been deified in a way that is daunting to the Western visitor. The Great Leader liberated the North from the Japanese and has since guided his

people in every detail. There are plaques everywhere commemorating his visits to schools, factories, monuments and museums to give on-the-spot guidance for their construction and smooth running.

Kim Il Sung is not just a soldier; he is a thinker and political philosopher who studied Marx and Lenin and found them wanting. To bridge the gap he has evolved his own philosophy, the Juche idea. It is not a philosophy to be digested at a glance but it appears to have three basic ingredients: independence in politics, self-support in the economy and self-reliance in national defence. At times its creator sounds like a collectivist Samuel Smiles, urging industry, thrift and self-improvement upon the people not for the benefit of the individual but for the benefit of the state.

Kim Il Sung's birthplace on the outskirts of Pyongyang has been turned into a shrine; the huts prettied up and labelled and surrounded by lawns. Doleful music cocoons the scene, provoking an unfortunate comparison with Graceland, Elvis Presley's home in Tennessee. A short walk away a museum has been built tracing the life not only of Kim Il Sung but of his parents and grandparents to prove his impeccable revolutionary background. The accuracy of some of the details is questionable but the magnitude of the myth is assured and children from a tiny age are indoctrinated with every line.

At a nursery school for the children of professional women who need to travel I watched three in their teens find their way through a question and answer session. "Where was our Great Leader born?", the teacher asked, and the children chanted the reply. The teacher asked when he was born, and the children gave the date. She then pointed to a picture on the wall and asked: "What is this?" A moppet went forward and explained that the picture showed Kim Il Sung up a tree trying to catch a rainbow. He failed and so climbed another tree and tried again. Still he failed, and in this way he learned about nature.

On the floor above, two groups of children dressed in identical salmon-pink tracksuits were involved in a relay race, each child placing a printed letter on a board. When completed the words read:

"We are the happiest people in the world."

A foreign resident told me that when she was about to go to Hong Kong she asked her Korean staff if there was anything they would like brought back. No, they replied, our Great Leader provides everything. Newspapers bearing his picture must not be thrown away, but what happens to them is a mystery.

The Great Leader will be 74 next week and has already handed over much of the day-to-day running of the state to his son, Kim Jong Il, who is 43 and known throughout the land as The Dear Leader. Needless to say there is much speculation about the advisability of such a dynastic move - the prospect displeases even North Korea's friends, China and Russia - and even more gossip about when it is likely to happen and if it will meet the approval of the military, of which he has never been a member.

Right now North Korea is at a crossroads and the signposts are none too clear. The economy appears to be stagnant; the second seven-year plan ended in 1984 with the boast that the annual growth rate since 1978 had been 9.6 per cent. The new plan was expected last July, but there is still no sign of it. Last year saw many of the older leaders dropped in favour of younger technocrats who favour trade links with other countries.

Direct foreign investment is not encouraged because it breeds dependence; the favoured option is joint ventures, which so far seem to have been less than successful. The French have tried co-building an hotel but discussions have faltered on the suitability of the chosen site. Others are wary. North Korea went on a spending spree in the 1970s and did not pay the bills. As a result it is listed as the least credit-worthy nation in the world.

Economic troubles appear to stem from heavy spending on defence, which has now been reduced to about 14 per cent of the budget from something like 30 per cent in the 1960s. About 5 per cent of the population - 800,000 out of 19 million - are in the armed forces, which are bigger than those of South Korea even though the population of the North is only half that of the South.

Despite this military disparity the North claims that its intentions are misunderstood. It insists that reunification by force is out of the question and cannot be achieved by one side conquering the other. "We don't want another war," I was told. "What has been achieved is 100 valuable lives to be destroyed." What North Koreans want, they say, is dialogue and consultation to achieve one country, communist in the North, capitalist in the South, each with an autonomous government under a central authority with an alternating presidency.

Such talk seems pie in the sky when simpler questions of economic links between the two continue to flounder, with each side accusing the other of dragging its feet and deliberate obstruction. Outsiders agree that the North is less interested in improving links than it says. History shows that for thousands of years there has been antagonism between North and South, based originally on tribal antagonisms. The South has traditionally seen the North as uncouth, uneducated and full of troublemakers, and the North to regard the southerners as lazy, scheming rascals. The talking now is intended not so much to overcome that division, exacerbated by ideological differences, but to improve North Korea's image and try to build bridges with Japan and the United States.

This former Land of the Morning Calm has become the Land of Morning Action. There is much more to come.

Woodrow Wyatt Learning to love nuclear power

Thirty years ago Calder Hall was the first nuclear power station in the world to supply grid electricity. Britain was ahead of everyone.

Today 65 per cent of electricity in France is generated by nuclear power; in Belgium 35 per cent; Taiwan 46.5 per cent, Sweden 43.3 per cent and West Germany 25.5 per cent. The Soviet Union has one of the largest civil nuclear power programmes without a word of anti-nuclear protest from anywhere.

Of the large industrial nations, Britain has one of the smallest, with less than 20 per cent of our electricity provided by nuclear power. We are so far behind that the Central Electricity Generating Board has had to import electricity from France - 25 per cent cheaper than it can produce electricity here.

From now on nuclear powered electricity will steadily become cheaper than that from oil or coal-fired power stations. French industry's energy costs are at least 25 per cent lower than Britain's. In Scotland, where 40 per cent of electricity comes from nuclear power, electricity charges are substantially lower than in England and Wales. What happened?

Defiance to the miners is part of the story. It was thought that the threat of nuclear power would stop their strikes and encourage them to increase productivity. But only this week the CEBG claimed that its purchase of British coal is tantamount to a £500 million-a-year subsidy to the coal industry.

The miners have been aided by the anti-nuclear lobby, which has managed to confuse civil nuclear power with nuclear weapons in the public mind. Splendid propaganda was provided by the accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear power station in Pennsylvania in 1979, even though no one was killed or fat, and any after-effects in Britain no one has been killed from the effects of radiation from nuclear power plants, but thousands have been killed in mining, fishing, construction and other industries. The much publicized leaks at Sellafield, though some ought not to have happened, have been trivial. One which made front-page headlines involved no more radioactivity than there is in a luminous watch. Radiation on beaches near Sellafield is lower than in Cornwall, but no-one suggests that Cornwall is unsafe for holiday-makers.

Of all the radiation we are subjected to only 0.1 per cent comes from the nuclear industry. Five times more comes from air travel and 370 times more from radon and thoron gases inside buildings. But we are not going to pull them down.

There is the suggestion that somehow a nuclear plant can blow up like an H-bomb, with consequent mass extermination and cancer diseases. That is impossible. An explosion might conceivably cause some increase of internal radiation in the plant but it could not have the effect of a nuclear weapon because it is not constructed that way, as all sci-

entists agree. There have also been suggestions that the rate of leukemia in some areas close to nuclear plants is higher than the national average. But it is also higher in many other small areas nowhere near nuclear power plants. Search for a group out of the national pattern and you can find one almost anywhere.

Ignorance, fanned into superstitious dread, helps delay our nuclear power programme. So does the British love of planning inquiries - part of our decline into Athenian-style democracy, for ever debating everything. France has no such problem. The Sizewell inquiry ended in March 1985 after two and a quarter years. The report is not due for months. But it is urgent to start on the nuclear power projects involved because, as the older power stations are retired, we will otherwise soon be generating even less electricity from nuclear power than at present. Fortunately the inquiry into the planning application for a reprocessing plant at Dounreay may not be obstructed by many of the usual protesters because it is needed to secure the jobs of 2,300 people.

As for waste, Sir Alan Cottrell FRGS in How Safe Is Nuclear Energy? has shown that the method of waste disposal involves no risk to this or future generations. The Swedish Karm-Branster-Sakerhet report of 1978 said that even if a deep drinking well were drilled close to a nuclear waste deposit site the increase in the personal radiation dose of regular users of the well would be well below the variations in natural radiation between different places. That report concluded: "The proposed method for the final storage of high-level waste glass is therefore deemed to be absolutely safe." In percentage terms Sweden is producing more than double the amount of nuclear powered electricity than Britain.

Protesters, many of them also CND sympathizers, have had some success in turning the public against nuclear-powered electricity. Few people realize that already nearly one fifth of our electricity comes from this source. The Gallup poll published in the Sunday Telegraph of March 16 in its first question said that about 12 per cent of our electricity came from nuclear power, thus making the respondent suppose that the amount was negligible. On this inaccurate basis only 24 per cent thought nuclear power generation should be increased, as against 39 per cent in 1976; the number thinking that there should be no increase that electricity generation from nuclear power should stop altogether rose from 36 per cent in 1976 to 65 per cent.

With oil reserves dwindling, the government faces a challenging propaganda effort to get public support for the only obvious way of generating cheap electricity. As for coal, it need not be wasted: within 20 years it could provide petrol as cheaply as oil from processes now being developed.

Joseph Connolly

Marshalling my phalanx of fax

(To be sung to the tune of The Oatcakes): We are the Filofaxes, happy girls and boys. We fill the pockets with our dockets.

Twist the fax to save us taxes. Cross-refer the orange-lined bits With the turquoise plain! It really is a ceaseless joy. It lifts you from the hot-pot, a trendy and expensive toy - Because we all have Filofax. We're happy girls and boys!

Yes, the bright-faced cherubs of the Forties and Fifties have all grown up into Yuppies with red spectacle frames. Filing is no longer the territory of the hapless clerk; it is now just about the most meaningful thing you can do. For those of you recently deceased, I ought to explain that Filofax - and its two or three imitators - is a loose-leaf system to keep in check our personal chaos. Or at least that's the official version. The truth is far more insidious - it is a drug, a highly contagious and totally addictive drug that is sweeping the nation; we need our fix of Filofax.

Purchase in Tottenham Court Road seems to be London's main pusher. Daily one may observe the massed throngs of hapless slaves to the habit hovering on the brink between ecstasy and despair as they survey the massed rectangular pigeon-holes chock-full of every type of blank and pre-printed refill, the consumer-friendly packets panning out at about 60p plain, 80p coloured.

The ecstasy is induced by the thrill of it all: new colours they have not previously seen, information sheets new to them (lighting-up time in New Delhi, say, the incidence of malaria on the Costa del Sol, international sock sizes, and other essential business). The despair stems from the realization that their beloved "Winchester" wallet (the favourite - the one to be seen clutching) is already straining at the rings with world maps, the London A-Z, Underground guides, transparent plastic pockets choked with plastic credit cards, Most Used Telephone Numbers, diary, addresses, financial reckoners, planners and Don't Forget sheets, most of which are scrawled over

with memoranda to buy heaps more of the above.

A collective groan of mingled horror and near-erotic arousal went up recently when suddenly there appeared leather punched inserts, some with zipped pouches for E1 and E2 (it's all very Eighties) at around £20 a throw.

The addicts treat their breasts while rendering the odd garment (opt easy with one hand, let's face it, the golden rule being that you never ever relinquish hold of your Filofax, except possibly when showering, when it is perfectly proper to request a friend to hold it for you - a very trusted friend, it must be underlined, for the new taboo is to dream of even glancing inside another's Filofax; to do so is to sully a sacred place, while stealing a little of the owner's soul; this is so clear as hardly to bear saying).

These new leather inserts have really thrown the cat among the pigeons, because although it is now de rigueur for all the Filofaxes to own one of these (in the same colour as the wallet? Or a contrast? Maybe two, to be on the safe side) what with all the other paraphalia little room is left for so much as one blank piece of paper upon which to write, let alone a second to which one might cross-refer.

It is at this point that the already worrying illness enters its second stage and becomes incurable, for a quick bout of self-therapy convinces the sufferers that what they really need now is no fewer than two fully-fledged "Winchesters" - one for home, one for office, say - or one in each hand; any reason, really. Whereupon they can indulge in an orgy of acquisition (all the inserts so far resisted) and while at it have each wallet gold-blocked with their initials - and then they can spend every hour God sends cross-refering all the information from one to the other.

It is an extraordinary business, and I must confess to being not just a disinterested chronicler. I am not bitten, of course - not at all, indeed, upon first acquisition of my "Winchester" I could not think of a single fax to put in the bloody thing. But it has proved useful to a degree: yes, I confess that much

Just as Told

THE ARTS

Television
Father's
years
of glory

No television producer is a hero to his film editor; Sir Huw Wheldon, the former BBC television managing director who died last month, was the exception to this rule.

Omnibus (BBC1) began his new series with a tribute to Wheldon as the founding father of television arts programmes and Alan Tyrer, Wheldon's editor on his legendary arts programme, *Monitor*, was among the assembly of great and good programme makers whom he inspired — a company which included Melvyn Bragg, Humphrey Burton, Jonathan Miller, Ken Russell and John Schlesinger.

The programme was a model of its kind which conveyed affection while avoiding sentiment and paused to glory in some of *Monitor*'s most memorable films.

It was wholly appropriate for the current flagship of the BBC arts armada to concentrate on Wheldon as a programme maker. His profile emerged as that of a great editor who drew the best from his associates by a combination of high intensity, professional skill, dedication and the ability to strike fear into his associates' hearts.

On Channel 4, *Iran — A Righteous Republic* was a film made with the combination of flair and rigorous analysis of which Huw Wheldon would have approved. This was a balanced, detailed report of a kind which is far too rare in current affairs television.

In reporting on the state of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the programme made it clear that this was a society inspired by values which are held far more seriously than any moral or religious belief in the West. The Islamic revolution of Iran is, like the Russian revolution, a movement which carries an obligation for its adherence to export its ideals.

Tim Hodlin, the programme's producer and an experienced commentator on Arab affairs, visited the theological schools in the holy city of Qum (Qum) to find religious leaders from many countries in training there. They learnt foreign languages — including English — along with the finer points of Koranic interpretation.

The influence of these ideas was traced to recent terrorist activities in the Lebanon, with film taken in a secret mosque. It was clear that Iran has assumed the ideological leadership of the muslim world. In hand with this penetrating analysis went the beauty of the Iranian landscape, an aesthetic pleasure which held the viewer's attention throughout.

Celia Brayfield

Theatre
Tripping up on
a bold revival

Cabaret
Hippodrome,
Birmingham

"Book by Joe Masteroff. Based on the play by John van Druten . . ."

How Isherwood's stories of pre-war Berlin suffered in the years before Bob Fosse's superlative 1972 movie adaptation of the *Kandor and Ebb* musical. And how movies based on stage productions tend to supersede the original in the public's imagination. "Follow that" says the lavishly successful screen version. One has to salute the producer Paul Barnard's boldness in mounting this, the first full stage production of *Cabaret* for 15 years, if only because there is so little else to salute. That is what this show amounts to — two and a half hours of boldness.

The constant lure for every adaptor has been the central, luminous image of Sally Bowles, the good girl turned good-time girl riding her luck in a degraded foreign milieu with a heady blend of panache and vulnerability. The story's tragic overtones derive from her headstrong determination to carry the torch of the 1920s into the wrong decade, when history was staging its ugly comeback: the wolves are howling outside the ballroom windows, but Sally will not accept that the party is over.

Kelly Hunter looks absolutely right in the role — a marmalade-bobbed moppet in a zebra-skin coat — but her manner does little to convince one that she really has traded her hockey stick for a vamp's microphone. She is neither

raunchy enough nor winsome enough for the emotional range required, and her singing voice sounds at times unpleasantly strident.

The catalytic role belongs to Wayne Sleep as the epicure MC of the Kit Kat Club, and one can only report that he fails to live up to Joel Gray's Oscar-winning performance in the film. The fact that he cannot really sing is less damaging than the blandness of his dancing, which is slick, precise, well oiled and quite without feeling. He is, oddly enough, more credible as the boistered boulevardier of "If you could see her" than as the malevolent imp of "Political Tap". So much control and so little impact.

The plot itself has gained (or, rather, the film judiciously combined) the German Mr Norris (Rodney Conam) and the old Jewish shopkeeper (Oscar Quaitak) who woos and almost wins Fraulein Schneider (Vivienne Martin); their relationship provides both an ocean of schmaltz and the focus for anti-semitic sentiment. The production's most telling moment comes when silhouetted thugs chanting "Judenrasse!" hurl blood against the shop's glass doors, which open to reveal "innocent" passers-by — an effect altogether more potent than the Nazi salutes that elsewhere turn into gracious bows.

The most wasted moment arrives when Miss Hunter tells Peter Land, our man with the co-responder shoes and the Remington, of her abortion; he registers shock, slaps her face and wheels away in the space of a heartbeat, which suggests (like so much else



Out of step: Wayne Sleep as the MC and Kelly Hunter as Sally Bowles in Cabaret

here) that the director Gillian Lynne has sacrificed drama to choreography. The acting overall is on a lower plane than the brisk and enthusiastic ensemble dancing.

Mark Thompson's design is an amalgam of sub-Groez murals, life-size puppet figures out of Kokoschka and "decadent" costumes. Troupes of interesting young men flouncing around (for "Money") in white bathing suits stuck with silver discs, or their female counterparts strutting the stage (for the title number) with slicked back hair, dinner suits and murderous cigarette holders merely provide the housewives in the house with a giggle, while chorus lines of goosestepping lovelies come up in Weimach helmets, red tasseled epaulettes and gleaming jackboots made your reviewer wish he was watching *Springtime for Hitler* instead.

Martin Cropper

The Lower
Depths
Tricycle

The subtitle of Tunde Ikoli's "contemporary adaptation" of Gorky, *An East Side Story*, is a topographical whim: none of the human jessam on display — an alcoholic former teacher, an unemployed carpenter, a prostitute, a fake African chief, an old widow and a young thief — has an identifiable east London accent.

The case for contemporaneity is undeniable, since with the exception of the thief and the prostitute the tenants are kept alive by supplementary benefit. These are, in other words, the lower depths of modern society; the despair of absolute penury has been replaced by state-subsidized apathy.

In real life, of course, the most salient result of this condition is boredom, and

boredom remains in the margin of Mr Ikoli's script. His characters, following Crispy, are too busy examining us with their problems and petty squabbles to surrender to their natural state.

The dramatically necessary intruder, a mysterious tenant played with naive authority by Ram John Holler, does indeed attempt to change their state by offering advice and encouragement, recommending the thief to start a new life in Birmingham and persuading the alcoholic to kick the bottle. Robb Summers's twitchy dried-out dipso is an excellent piece of characterization, and one's attention is also held by Rudolf Walker's energetic portrayal of the sham Nigerian chief and Maria Charles's widow.

Roland Rees's production is crisp, intelligent and largely unpretentious but the piece fails to live up to the possibilities of its conception.

MC

Radio
Cosmic reality

There is an enchantment in progress on Radio 3 just now and it is Fraser Steele's production of a reading of Virgil's *Georgics*. Whether the translation by Robert Wells is faithful to the text in any very scholarly way I do not know — my Latin has almost rusted away — but the English is direct and supple and amazingly evocative, transporting the listener back 2,000 years as if under a spell.

The magic originates in the interplay of certain elements. At one level there is a resolutely practical disquisition upon agricultural management founded on acute observation and delivered with that brand of assurance which is itself a sort of poetry. This in turn is set within the realm of nature as a whole and this again within an idea of the world and the cosmos as far as Virgil could perceive it — and he could perceive it — and he could understand it, rather endearingly, aware that this in some respects was not very far. So much cannot be explained: why does the sun rise and set, why does the sea rise and fall?

Here the poet conveys his understanding that there must be a reality beyond what he is able to conceive, though not necessarily nondescript. The translation has proved a ready vehicle for all this and the reading by John Franklyn-Robbins catches its shifting tones quite beautifully, from the down-to-earth to the cosmic and even, at the end of last Tuesday's reading, to the Arcadian vision, suggesting that, for all his powers of observation, Virgil had a rather frail appreciation of the ruder realities of the peasant-farmer's life.

We were taken back a mere twelve or thirteen hundred years by *Venomous Corruption* and the *Evil Eye* (Radio 4, Sunday, producer Deborah Cohen), back to that day when

a dragon was sighted over Northumbria and soon afterwards some Vikings came ashore and pillaged the whole area: the one presaged the other. Not only were dragons ominous but, as Dr Peter Hogarth pointed out, their existence as part of the animal kingdom was a matter of unassailable record. Likewise the basilisk and the mantichore.

And how could it be otherwise? Travellers with an ear for a good tale, or an active imagination, or who had believed the romances of the natives, came back with detailed eye-witness accounts that made the mythical beasts as real as the giraffe or elephant — which were themselves, God knows, improbable enough to the inhabitants of northern Europe. There was, as Dr Hogarth put it, no rational basis for discrimination. It took the arrival of Linnaeus (1707-78) to classify the myths out of existence, though there was still much to keep them going, and the Great Classifier himself was obliged to leave Hamburg in a hurry after declaring that a stuffed bydra, which certain dignitaries had hoped to sell at a profit, had been fabricated.

And then classification, as it tends to, also excluded what was not foreseen in its categories: in the post-Linnaean atmosphere the duckbill platypus had a hard time proving it was not another fabrication. By now of course rational beses triumph, the basilisk and such are swept away, the duckbill properly listed. Surely we have come on, Well, yes . . . But what about the amazingly well-documented history of the Unidentified Flying Object? What about the bizarre and confident assertions of the more way-out health freaks and religious cultists?

David Wade

American
Ballroom Theatre
Sadler's Wells

If you are wondering what a company of ballroom dancers are doing at Sadler's Wells, the short answer is that they are providing the most completely and surprisingly enjoyable dance programme I have found on any British stage this year.

They start with the advantage of extremely attractive music, familiar, easy on the ear, eminently danceable. Sometimes the melodies are buried too deep beneath an excessive arrangement but most of the pieces flowed smoothly. The Pasadena Roof Orchestra play with a swinging sense of rhythm, and also provide the show's setting.

The right music helps but is not itself enough. On paper another American company, Garth Fagan's Bucket Dance Theatre has more varied music, from reggae to Dvorak.

Dance

But they used it boringly, like wall paper, to provide a flat background to their numbers, and everything looks alike, especially as Fagan's choreography rarely extends beyond stretches and balances interrupted by odd fidgety bits. So his dancers, all enthusiastic, some rather good, one (Sieve Humphrey) very good, make limited impact.

However, at Sadler's Wells the dancers of American Ballroom Theatre respond wonderfully well to the music.

There are four couples, nicely varied in looks and manner. Gary and Lori Pierce have most of the romantic numbers, ranging from a smooth "Night and Day" to a smoochy "Besame Mucho". They also dance a nice light-hearted "Top Hat, White Tie and Tails" in which he sails into soaring cabrioles while she keeps the rhythm going with her pretty footwork.

John and Cathi Nyemchek are the comedians of the team, very nimble too, excelling in

bravura flurries of steps. They also dance "Fascination" with the breathless, stary-eyed air of a couple who have just fallen head over heels in love.

Richard and Bonnie Diaz come into their own in the Latin American part of the evening, with "Desafinado" and a "Tea for Two Cha Cha", but, as with the whole team, they contribute valuably to group dances throughout.

Pierre Duhaime and Yvonne Marceau, founders, directors and stars of the company, by no means hog the attention. True, they show a nicely humorous flair in the show's first featured duet, "The Continental", but then for much of the evening they are seen as key members of the ensemble. When the reveal their full skills near the end, in "Misty", however, the effect is breathtaking, both marvellously co-ordinated and fluent. It is the highlight of a fine show.

John Percival

Opera
A troubled bride

The Bartered
Bride
Coliseum

"Did none of these gentlemen notice that my model was the comic opera of Mozart?" asked Smetana. Well, to be honest, no. Not, at least, in the revival, if such it can be called, of Elijah Moshinsky's one-year-old production of *The Bartered Bride* for English National Opera. The swiftness are going to seed, the summer grass is still more threadbare, and the cast, largely new this time round, behave as if the sun and Pitzen has been just too much for them.

The work itself needs a lot of help, particularly when spread over a space as large as the Coliseum's. The big song and dance numbers are pretty

thinly spread through the string of business deals, comic cameos and gentle musings on love through which the plot makes its attenuated progress. And David Ritch, who is responsible for this staging, makes little attempt in the first act to distract us from the painful filling in of genealogies required of poor Jenik and Marenka. Exit and entrances in lines parallel to the horizon, and staccato conversations in front of a farm cart bang in the middle of the preensward do have a way of reinforcing rather than relieving the score's tendency to repetition and symmetry.

Peter Hirsch, making his debut in the pit, conducts with care, precision and a certain affection, but never with quite enough sense of flair or comic panache to make one do anything but simply long for them to send in the clowns. At last the circus comes to town. The Poncé family more than earn their keep in clowning, juggling and tightrope walking; and if further distraction



Uneasy partner: Angela Feeney and John Treleaven

were needed, Jerry Jenkins as Ringmaster gathered together a band of new jokes for the house. Mark Richardson's Ian is now a real "Parsec-fol": Siegfried Geronimo, appearing at short notice". Ouch.

But the third act is also the point at which the few principals come into their own. Life had not been easy for either John Treleaven's stalwart, sturdy Jenik or Angela Feeney's demure Marenka in the first two acts, though

Feeney's bright soprano had wanted to her relationship with Alan Woodrow's stammering Vasek, while Treleaven had been able only to tiptoe through the clipped rhythms (not helped by this translation) of his famous bartering duet with Richard Van Allan's dour, witty, idealistic Kecal. As yet they make an uneasy pair in a production still curiously ill at ease with itself.

Hilary Finch

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Concerts
Four into one goes so smoothly

Delmé Quartet
Goldsmiths' Hall

The Delmé Quartet does not introduce new works from a sense of duty, nor do the members allow a missionary view to alienate the listener; one has the impression that they delight in sharing something worthy, yet unfamiliar. The first performance of Malcolm Singer's Quartet, commissioned by the City Music Society, was a case in point. The composer dispenses with conventional sonorities and makes expensive use of trutes and harmonics.

The technique of superimposing fragmented melodic snatches in the highest register on a rhythmically insistent accompaniment demanded their precision in the opening movement's repeated syncopation and the "busy chromatic buzz" of the *moto perpetuo*-like finale fully rose to the pin-point detail in the piece's myriad ideas.

Even if the eloquent urbanity of Hayden's G Major quartet, Op 54 No 2 was predictable: the delight of hearing four players meld as one never waned. They do not

throw the music at you — one is invited to participate in the interpretative process.

The Delmé Quartet approached the deep lyrists of Sibelius's only mature Quartet with a mellowness of sound more often associated with a string orchestra. It was conveyed in a quietly loving, if unreal, gentleness. Never was one aware of an individual player; one focused on the body of sound. Where the tempo moved into *piu allegro* in the finale I suspected that the standard of play might fall off, but it was a tribute to the Delmé's professionalism that they were able to give full vent to the entrancing bravura.

James Methuen-Campbell

LPO/Davis
Festival Hall

The last time I saw Carl Davis in charge of an orchestra he had cut up some rather revered music by Beethoven into small bits, pasted them together in a different order, added a liberal sprinkling of repeat marks, and was using this *papier maché* masterpiece to accompany an interminable silent movie called *Napoleon*. Now he has been appointed

associate conductor of the London Philharmonic Orchestra. One trusts that his new responsibilities will not include wielding the scissors too often on Beethoven.

This was the blandest music-making I have heard since I inadvertently caught the James Last Orchestra on television. Ravel's *Mother Goose* suite drifted by in an undifferentiated haze.

The orchestral cohesion was more or less maintained but the pace was utterly unvaried. He was livelier in Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade*, not surprising because the score has long been a happy hunting ground for film composers. Even here, though, some of the wind soloists indulged in a rhythmic liceo that stopped not far short of mutiny.

Still, the evening had its compensations. In Mozart's Flute and Harp Concerto one could be dazzled by the harpist David Watkins's glittering, Liberace-style jacket, if not by his fingerwork. The flautist Jonathan Snowden did, however, give a well-poised and sprightly performance.

And one could always fill in the LPO's audience-research questionnaire to white away a few of Scheherazade's 1,001 nights.

Richard Morrison

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April 12 - 18, 1986

SATURDAY

A weekly guide to leisure, entertainment and the arts



Show people: Cliff Richard, Dave Clark (Time), Elaine Page, Tim Rice, Hal Prince (Chess), Andrew Lloyd Webber, and Sarah Brightman (Phantom of The Opera), all helping to pack musicals into the West End

Tills are alive to the sound of music

Two summers ago it was noted with some amazement that 13 London theatres, roughly one-third of the mainstream total, were staging musicals of one kind or another - an all-time high. By the middle of this summer that total may well have risen to 20, in which case there will be musicals in almost half the theatres in the West End... rather more than twice the number that are currently on Broadway, the traditional home ground.

This week's opening of Time, albeit to cool reviews, brings yet another musical to the West End, which is now staging more than Broadway. With others on the way, Sheridan Morley asks where the genre is heading

Oliver and the New-levy/Bricusse Stop the World in the 1960s, and that was about it. In the last decade or so, Lloyd Webber, alone, has achieved that many hits on Broadway (Cats, Evita, Jesus Christ Superstar and Joseph), while for many other managements the West End rather than the West Side has become the place to start a big-band show.

where it not for Kuce and Lloyd Webber (neither of them infallible, as Jeeves and Blondel established) we would be hard-pressed to talk of a native revival at all. Musicals always thrive in thin times. What was true for Busby Berkeley in the Hollywood 1930s has been proved true again as 42nd Street comes back to us 50 years later. An audience that has trouble finding the money for its tickets nevertheless likes to see where that money has gone, and huge sets or lavish costumes fulfil an escapist need. They also pose no real challenge.

Advertisement for RNID (Royal National Institute for the Deaf). Text: 'Touch means a lot to Samantha... she's deaf and blind. For the rest of her life she will neither see nor hear - her only senses are touch, smell and taste. The RNID cares for her in its unique residential centre at Bath where she is at home with her friends - although totally dependent on others. We could do more for Samantha and for others like her - given the money. If you care you can help us to help them by providing the money we so urgently need. Their smiles will say 'thank-you'. The RNID's other service include medical research and extensive scientific, technical, educational, welfare and information services. RNID The Royal National Institute for the Deaf.

What those accounts revealed was that, on average, Cats at the New London in Drury Lane takes just over £100,000 a week at the box-office on an original investment of just £500,000, a West End record in 1981. Of that £100,000, cast salaries take about a fifth, the theatre rental is £1,600, and other costs (publicity, theatre staffing, wardrobe replacement, insurance) account for about £15,000. Then there are £1,500 royalties to Lloyd Webber and the T.S. Eliot estate, taking total running costs to about £70,000 a week. Cats therefore shows a clear profit of just over £30,000 a week for its investors. By the middle of last year, four years into its run, it was showing an overall profit of some £4 million.

THE HIT LIST. Chess. New spectaculars: posters for two London shows THIS SUMMER. April 12: Wonderful Town by Leonard Bernstein... April 18: Annie Get Your Gun by Irving Berlin... April 23: HMS Pinafore (Old Vic)... April 30: Pacific Overtures by Stephen Sondheim... Chess. What we seem to have, therefore, are golden oldies or new spectaculars. The one great star of the West End musical of the 1980s in my view is John Napier, the designer of Cats and Starlight and Les Miserables, the man who is now building Time at

SATURDAY. Capitalist bandit Bernard Levin peers behind the curtain in Hungary, page 13. Arts Diary: 16 Gardening, 17 Out and About, 18 Opera, 19 Photography, 20 Radio, 21 Review, 22 Book & Jazz, 23 Shopping, 24 Television, 25 Travel.

Cream tip NO 37. Tempting bait for the whole family. Creamy Fish Savoury. This tasty fish dish is ideal for quick suppers or weekend lunches. Chop 2 hard boiled eggs. Mix with 225g (8ozs) cooked flaked fish and put in a greased, ovenproof dish. Pour over 150ml (1/4 pint) Single Cream and sprinkle with 50g (2ozs) grated English cheese. Pop under a hot grill for 10 minutes. Garnish with lemon twists and sliced tomatoes. This will serve 2-4. One taste and they'll be hooked. Get fresh with the cream.

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL

Curtain raisers: in Albania, Christopher Portway discovers a few chinks in the armour-plate of an otherwise grim society...

Nervous waves from iron fists

It was 15 years since I last visited Albania and from the start of the latest tour I became aware of improved conditions: there was less menace in the short walk we had to make, unscathed, across the no man's land between the Yugoslav and Albanian customs; everything was more relaxed, the Tommy-gun toting Albanian sentry offering a shy smile and half-hearted clenched-fist salute at our approach. Bibles and religious literature remained a forbidden import but my newspaper, after perusal of its pages, was returned to me.

distressing inability to keep hot food hot. The fruity red wine is drinkable; the beer weak and scented. But together with raki and an excruciating brandy, all are remarkably cheap. The visitor wishing to make contact with the ordinary Albanian has a daunting task. This is not caused by the language barrier alone - there is another, more disturbing hurdle: Albania, together with neighbouring Greece, has undergone an unenviable history of invasion, conquest and subjugation by Romans, Illyrians, Turks, Italians, Germans and others.

enemy within and without" so that they grow up behind a shield of suspicion that is not easy to penetrate. This fear of infiltration or invasion is intentionally carried to a ludicrous extreme. The country is, literally, an armed camp. The terrain bristles with concrete bunkers, out-of-date anti-aircraft guns crown many a hilltop, artillery emplacements cover the beaches and, in unison with the endless rhetoric and glorification of Enver Hoxha, the repetitive dogma urging vigilance and watchfulness drips from every wall and banner in the land.

The first of a great multitude of the late Comrade President Enver Hoxha's utterances thrust itself at us. "Even if we have to go without bread, we Albanians do not violate principles. We do not betray Marxist-Leninism". His dour words offer the key to any form of understanding of modern-day Albania. The authorities profess a distaste for hard currency - although they admit to its usefulness - so Albustrian, the state tourist organization, does not go in for conventional money-making activities. Instead, it concentrates a dispensing education: it takes its clients in well-chaperoned groups around the country showing them factories, schools and collective farms, all the while offering a commentary upon the life of bliss lived by Albanians.

This, coupled with her savage application of unadulterated Marxist-Leninism which has lost her the friendship of allied Communist nations such as Yugoslavia, the Soviet Union and China, gives Albania a reason to apply her isolationist policies to a fanatical degree.

From the age of three children are taught to be "vigilant for the quality of the programme is filled out by visits to a cable factory (not to be recommended to British factory safety inspectors) and a kindergarten in which it will be noted that the first line on page one of a top English exercise book reads "This is a rifle". The capital, Tirane, has expanded since I was last there and its huge Scanderbeg Square is now lined by the National Bank, National Museum, the Soviet-built Palace of Culture, the old Ehem Bey Mosque (now firmly a museum) and the 15-storey Tirane Hotel, renowned as the most comfortable lodging in Albania.

At Fiat coach was our vehicle for the 11-day tour of the country, a tour on roads little improved over the years. Albanians are not permitted to own a car so traffic is limited to slow-moving lorries, clapped-out buses and bullock carts and, in the towns, a hulk of people. A visitor is immediately struck by the volume of idling crowds everywhere. The boast of no unemployment may or may not be true, but assuredly there is a great deal of visible loafing and massive overmanning.

I travelled with Regent Holidays who run three tours and one static sojourn (based in Tirane) each year. The tours cover much of the country with one and two-night stop-overs in Shkoder, Durres, Sarande, Korce, Berat and Tirane, plus the first and last night in Yugoslavia's Titograd, Skopje, in the north, is the introduction; apart from the ruins of its Illyrian Rosafat Castle and the elegant Venetian bridge of Mes over the Kir Skm river, there is little to observe of sightseeing



Always on the look-out: the 18th-century Turkish watchtower on the shores of Lake Butrint in southern Albania

walk across the valley below Kruje in the company of the friendliest of Albanian villagers. For me the far south is the most attractive region of the country. Gjirocastër is a beautifully preserved old town where many of the medieval houses retain their original stone. The fortress has been transformed into a museum of weapons and the house - much rejuvenated - where Hoxha was born is a place of pilgrimage.

Sarande, facing Corfu across the straits, has the air of a French Riviera resort except for the empty shops, screaming red hoardings and police patrol boats scurrying across the bay. Just half an hour away, close to the Greek border, is Butrint, an extensive site of Illyrian, Greek and Roman relics and well worth seeing.

To the north, at Apollonia, there is another ancient site which includes a Greek temple that holds, surprisingly for an inexorably atheist state, a number of beautiful portraits of Christ. Berat contains some handsome streets



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TRAVEL

...and in Hungary, not even notorious Capitalist Bandit Bernard Levin is an Unperson

Cashing in on velvet gloves

Budapest is a city of - but what have we here? Can it be true that Levin, notorious Enemy of the People and Capitalist Bandit, has been allowed into even the most relaxed dominion of the Soviet Empire? He has; more to the point, perhaps, he has been allowed in again, and a fascinating time he had, too, as you shall hear.

Budapest, then, is a city of panoramas, made up mainly of hills and water; it has some of the most beautiful urban views in all Europe. Buda and Pest (the only way for a visitor to remember which is which is by the use of a mnemonic - Buda is over here, and Pest over there, and vice versa) are separated by the Danube, which flows with a majestic, unharmed statelyness beneath the splendid bridges, though it is no bluer here than in Vienna.

From the Buda (or Pest) side the view across the river is dominated by the lovingly restored Royal Palace; from Pest (or Buda) the view is anchored by the noble Parliament building. ("Our Parli-

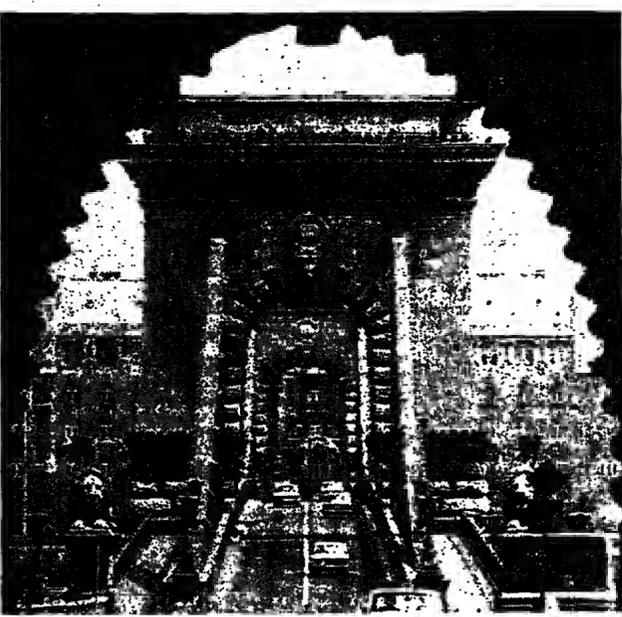
ment is rather like yours", they said, and I was about to say when they added that they meant the neo-Gothic architecture. But they didn't seem to mind discussing the contents as well; the Workers' Party, they explained, was the only one. Fancy!)

There are some marvellous buildings: the Matthias Church, a rare example of painted Gothic; the massive Castle complex; the Citadel, which crowns Gellert Hill and offers a view of the whole city; the handsome new airport, rife with marble; the neo-Renaissance Opera House, its interior lavishly and beautifully painted; Gundel's Restaurant, in charming Art Nouveau; the National Gallery, which has some of the most implausibly attributed

bad pictures I have ever seen; the Hilton Hotel, which incorporates, sensitively and strikingly, parts of a 13th-century abbey and the facade of a 17th-century Jesuit college. Hungary, which is desperate for hard currency, long ago decided that tourism must be encouraged; so, however, did Bulgaria, and even Arthur Scargill found that place falling rather short of a Socialist paradise. The Hungarians realized that western visitors will not come in their numbers if inefficiency reigns, and by hard work and farming out much of the hotel-building to western concerns (as well as, I imagine, the staff training) they have achieved a status unique in the eastern bloc: practically everything works.

The consequence is that foreign visitors to Hungary every year greatly outnumber the entire population of the country, and the influx is still growing. But the Hungarians also realized that western visitors will not come in crowds if there are too many visible signs that it is not a free country. The hideous Soviet "Liberation" memorial has no soldiers at all guarding it, let alone Russian ones, and this may stand as a symbol of the easier atmosphere of Hungary, even though - which they do not tell you - an enormous proportion of the Hungarian armed forces is officered by Russians.

Foreign newspapers, other than Communist ones, of course, are not available in ordinary shops and newsstands, but they are to be found in the hotels patronized by westerners, and in mine there were *The Times*, *Le Monde*, the *Frankfurter Allgemeine* and *La Stampa*, as well as the *Herald Tribune* (and *Newsday*, for which sales did not seem to be brisk); there was nothing I could see to stop a Hungarian citizen going into one of the hotel kiosks and buying such forbidden fruit, though no doubt if he did it every day for a fortnight somebody would make a telephone call to somebody else. And there is other evidence that the Hun-



Underneath the arches: the Széchenyi chain bridge, one of many crossing the Danube

garians have managed to carve out a life better and less trammelled than their neighbours.

They can travel on holiday to the west, for instance, and although I take it that permission would not be granted to an active or suspect dissident, the rest seem to have no trouble; they can only do it for a month, and even then only once every three years, but that seems to be more the result of the currency problem than the political situation. More significant still, Hungary does not seem to have created a category of Upper-sons. Those who have left and refused to return are, after a few years, safe to visit their native land and leave again, and those who might be thought to bring credit on Hungary by their achievements are freely and warmly discussed, unlike what happens elsewhere in the shadow of Moscow.

There is, for instance, an official newspaper for visitors, published in English and German, full of what you might expect from the information department of a Communist state; but it had a very generous article about Gyorgy Cziffra, one of the many

Even the events of 1956 can be discussed

Hungarian musicians living abroad, and Tamas Vasary, who is another of them, was actually playing a recital while I was there. I even ran into a member of the BBC Hungarian Service; he had left at the time of the Revolution, but was in Budapest on holiday. And Hungarians expressed pride as well as amazement at the fact that two Hungarian economists had become English Lords. (I forbore to explain about Balogh and Kaldor; it is not, after all, the duty of a guest to disillusion his hosts.)

They talk quite freely, too, without going so far as to criticize the government.

Even the events of 1956 can be discussed, though the word revolution is not used; the 30th anniversary of that heroic uprising is now only a few months away. (Driving about the city, I thought I was told that the handsome statue I was passing was that of Rakosi, and I goggled in disbelief until I discovered that this one spelt it Rákóczi; he was the notable 18th-century patriot who gave his name to the Rákóczi March.) There is a Lenio Boulevard, of course, but even in such matters they are as discreet as they are allowed to be; I wondered at first what the "Street of November Seventh" was, until I realized it was the Russian Revolution in disguise.

Materially, too, the Hungarians seem better off than their fellow-members of the club. Clothes were mostly in the style of 1950s Woolworths, but they seemed well-made and warm, and I found, wandering about the department stores, that there was a considerable variety. Certainly there were no queues at

food shops, which were well stocked, and no beggars, unless you count the waiter in a fashionable restaurant who, presenting a bill clearly marked Service Included, asked "Did you enjoy the service, sir?"

Standards of living are relative, of course; the Hungarian one is far below ours. But that cruel fact offers another incentive to visitors from the west: Hungary is almost incredibly cheap. And that "incredibly" is not just the usual cliché; I kept disbelieving bills which were a fifth the size of what they would have been in London, and I had trouble with the subway because I couldn't lay my hands on a coin of a value small enough for the turnstile to take it. (I collect subway tokens, but a taxi-ride clear across the city cost only one pound.)

Thus encouraged, I bought armfuls of gramophone records, which brings me to the reason why I went to Hungary in the first place. I was invited by the Director of the Budapest Festival to come and sample it; again, the

the Danube, costs £34.50 per person per night, sharing a twin room. Packages at the Forum, inclusive of air fares, transfers, breakfast, visa and a half-day city tour cost £256 for three nights. Further details from Danube Travel.

their paces. The main concert hall, recently built, is rather austere (apart from the frieze behind the platform, which is positively uglier than the one at the Barbican), but with a brilliantly clean acoustic; I would like to bear some Mozart there.

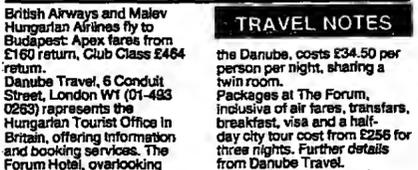
An enjoyable visit, but with a reminder, at beginning and end, of the difference between one kind of country and another. Although Hungary's rating in Charles Humana's now indispensable *World Human Rights Guide* is far higher than any other Soviet-bloc country, it wouldn't suit you and me at all, I assure you.

The day before I arrived was the anniversary of Kossuth's Declaration of Independence from the Austrians, and a group of young people staged a demonstration in front of his statue; thoughts of independence, however, were not to be allowed, even in Hungary, and the demonstration was broken up with considerable force.

And as I went through the passport-check on the way out, I discovered that this was the only country I have ever been in where the passport photograph is compared, very long and very carefully, with the face presenting it, and where, even after the traveller has passed the test, he has to undergo a further passport check by soldiers at the flight-gate. Hungarians are indeed allowed to travel to the west; but he would be a very bold or a very foolish Hungarian who tried to do so without first asking official permission.

The espresso coffee, incidentally, is the best in the world outside Italy. And *Cats* is sold out.

the Danube, costs £34.50 per person per night, sharing a twin room. Packages at the Forum, inclusive of air fares, transfers, breakfast, visa and a half-day city tour cost £256 for three nights. Further details from Danube Travel.



Warning given on passports

of activities which will include a sponsored walk, cricket match and quizzes. Ports of call include Malaga, Messina, Port Said, Athens and Gibraltar and prices start at £880.

Japan Air Lines has started the first one-stop flights between London and Tokyo. The weekly service leaves Heathrow on Tuesdays and takes 11hrs 35 mins on the short-cut route across the USSR.

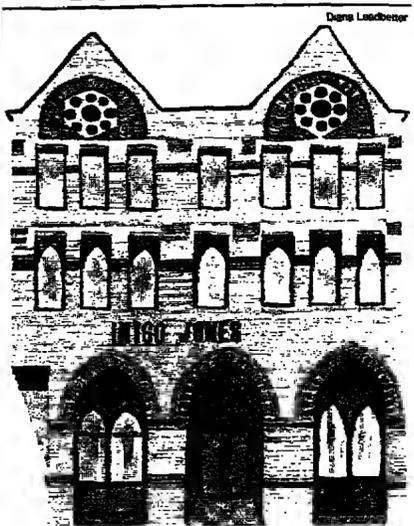
Sail of the century The historic eight-month voyage of the First Fleet, which founded Australia in 1787, is being re-enacted next year by 11 traditional square-rigged sailing ships, and bookings are being taken for trainee crew members by London-based Cox & Kings Travel. Would-be sea dogs can sign

on for any or all of the seven legs. Prices range from £925 for the five-day voyage from London to Portsmouth to £23,815 for the whole trip. Full details from Cox & Kings on 01-734 8291. Coming up roses

The English Tourist Board has published a brochure listing the 42 caravan parks in England which have been granted its "Rose Award". Parks qualifying for the award have all been independently inspected and, says the ETC, provide "first class holiday caravans in an attractive and well-managed setting". The guide is available from travel agents, tourist information centres or direct from the ETC (Dept D), Thames Tower, Black's Road, Hammersmith, London W6 9EL. Philip Ray

What's the connection between London and Malta? Heathrow Terminal 4. Air Malta is the only scheduled airline to fly direct to Malta from Heathrow, let alone the brand spanking new Terminal 4. And yet our prices start at just £135 return. For reservations, please call 01-930 2612 or see your travel agent. AIR MALTA We promise you a warm welcome.

EATING OUT



Just the diet the doctor ordered

Whether to lose weight, improve your health, perk up the taste-buds, win a bet, or to lower the cholesterol level in the blood, a new dietary regime is highly recommended.

Wary of the likes of avocados, shrimps, prawns, taramasalata, sausages and cheese, I set off to discover some of the healthier ways of eating out.

One of the most substantial, cholesterol-lowering foods is pasta: the recent fresh pasta boom might have more substance to it than I'd imagined. One of the best indications of this, precisely because it is so unpretentious, is Solopasta, a homely, formica-tabled Italian restaurant and shop in north London which makes its own high quality pasta and sauces.

Five basic types are offered on the menu (more are available to take away) ranging from egg or spinach-based tagliatelle, to spaghetti bolognese (flecked with basil in the making of the dough). There are also the more familiar lasagne and caconelli.

Lip to seven sauces are available, with the regular and siciliana enlivened by the likes of pesto genovese, a delicious light sauce flavoured with fresh basil, pine nuts and garlic. You can come away feeling well fed and virtuous for around £5 to £6 a head.

Japanese food always attracts attention when healthier diets are under discussion, although the benefits of raw fish, noodles, lightly-fried seafood and vegetables can often come expensive.

The small, rather spartan Gombi restaurant is, however, one of the cheaper species of Japanese establishment.

The tiny four to five-seater sushi-bar has all the usual range of raw fishes available from salmon to tuna and mackerel, and the cholesterol-conscious should be able to steer a relatively safe and certainly appetizing journey through yakizakana (crisply grilled mackerel with mashed horse-radish), delicate miso soup (with spring onions and soya bean curd), skewers of lean chicken yakitori or a fish and meat casserole, yosenabe.

The attractive tempura, despite the lightness of the batter, was probably forbidden as three giant prawns are the centre-piece. But the boiled octopus in vinegar, had a marvellous smoky flavour.

Another reliable route to dietary fulfilment is provided by the vegetarian regimes of southern India. Once the unfashionable and downbeat relations of Indian restaurants, Asian vegetarian establishments draw an increasingly "aware" clientele. The Rani established for over a year now, steers clear of earnestness but offers a cheerful and attractive menu of Gujarati dishes.

The small range of dishes offers a wide scope of flavours, from potato and vegetable-filled panakes (masala dosa) and black-eyed bean curry, to spicy dhal vada (black lentil fritters with yoghurt sauce). The set meals (thalis), ranging from £4.20 to £8 a head for the massive "Rani Super Table", are probably the best way of ordering a balanced programme of dishes.

I find an Indian vegetarian meal seems unappetizing; you might treat your taste-buds to the exotic "menu potager" at the smart French restaurant Inigo Jones.

Paul Gayler, the English chef, is famous for his inventiveness, and his five-course vegetarian extravaganza at £22.50 a head is a rare attempt by a chef of such quality to get to grips with meat-free disciplines.

The colourful parade of celeriac mousse, flecked with chives and served with dabs of cold beetroot sauce, vegetable-stuffed raviolis and a flutelle of broccoli, corn, oyster mushrooms and quails' eggs are so lightly sauced that they should be a dietician's delight.

The final courses of hot goat's cheese topped with a puree of olives and a pineapple and yoghurt terrine with a rich Campani sauce, might not do anything for cholesterol levels but, by golly, they taste good.

Stan Hey

FOOD NOTES

- Solopasta, 26 Liverpool Road, London N1 (01-359 7648). Open: Tues-Sat noon-3pm and 6-10.30pm.
Gombi, 151 King's Cross Road, London WC1 (01-278 0619). Open: Mon-Sat 6-10.30pm.
Rani, 3-5 Long Lane, London N3 (01-349 4388). Open: daily 9-10.30pm. Sat, Sun noon-2pm.
Inigo Jones, 14 Garrick Street, London WC2 (01-836 6456). Open: Mon-Sat 5.30-11.30pm; Mon-Fri 12.30-2.30pm.

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CHESS

The Swift route to revenge

Anatoly Karpov has brushed aside any suspicion that he might still be jaded or off form after his loss of the title to Kasparov. True, the ex-champion's performances in the Lucerne World Teams in November and the Vienna Master Swiss in January were respectable rather than inspired, but in neither event did he lose any games.

Now in the SWIFT International in Brussels, Karpov has dominated a field which includes his old rival, Korchnoi, plus such dangerous younger opponents as Timman, Ljubojevic and Miles. Particularly impressive were Karpov's 105 marathon victory against Ian Timman and his dramatic demolition of the top Yugoslav, Ljubojevic. Karpov's overall performance must give him grounds for optimism.

White: Karpov; Black: Ljubojevic. Brussels March/April. French Defence. 1 P-Q4 P-Q4 2 P-Q4 P-Q4 3 N-F3 N-F3 4 P-Q4 P-Q4 5 P-Q4 P-Q4 6 P-Q4 P-Q4 7 P-Q4 P-Q4 8 P-Q4 P-Q4 9 P-Q4 P-Q4 10 P-Q4 P-Q4 11 P-Q4 P-Q4 12 P-Q4 P-Q4 13 P-Q4 P-Q4 14 P-Q4 P-Q4 15 P-Q4 P-Q4 16 P-Q4 P-Q4 17 P-Q4 P-Q4 18 P-Q4 P-Q4 19 P-Q4 P-Q4 20 P-Q4 P-Q4 21 P-Q4 P-Q4 22 P-Q4 P-Q4 23 P-Q4 P-Q4 24 P-Q4 P-Q4 25 P-Q4 P-Q4 26 P-Q4 P-Q4 27 P-Q4 P-Q4 28 P-Q4 P-Q4 29 P-Q4 P-Q4 30 P-Q4 P-Q4

Black hopes to strike back with ... P-Q4. Karpov promptly squashes this possibility.

With Black's forces cramped white avoids exchanges.

A wild bid for counterplay which, however, may simply undermine the solidarity of his own structure.

Typical Karpov. The move looks insignificant, but is in fact very far-sighted. Later on this Rook's co-ordination along the second rank will play a decisive role.

Exchange of Queens does not completely relieve Black's problems.

A logical attempt to seek further relief by exchanges and simultaneously rid himself of his restricted Queen's Bishop. But Karpov has prepared a crushing and artistic refutation.

The decisive coup. White now gains material and launches a deadly attack against the Black King.

Threatening mate.

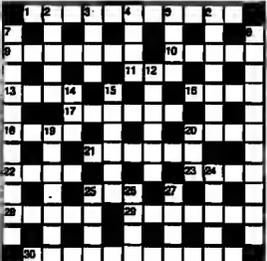
Black resigns.

Raymond Keene

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 923)

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday April 17, 1986. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, April 19, 1986.

- ACROSS: 1 Enlistment (11) 2 Wash away (5) 3 True (4) 4 Presser (4) 5 Cat cry (4) 6 Crank (7) 7 Terrifying (4,7) 8 Entertaining guests (11) 12 Get (6) 14 Fish plane (3) 15 Mohair (6) 19 See (7) 20 Salsic (3) 24 Town (5) 25 Cow shelter (4) 26 Kit (4) 27 Not this (4)



The winners of prize concise No 917 are: H. Blackman, Highfield Road, Flackwell Heath, Buckinghamshire; and E. McKeith, Ogleforth, York.

SOLUTION TO NO 922 ACROSS: 1 Trumpets 5 Complly 8 Way 9 Pierce 10 Nectar 11 Mean 12 Peculiar 14 Conquer 17 Inmate 19 Pedantic 22 Sack 24 Estate 25 United 26 Nod 27 Heated 28 Exhort DOWN: 2 Raise 3 Moronic 4 Sweeper 5 Cynic 6 Mocha 7 Leaflet 13 Can 15 Oversee 16 Urn 17 Include 18 Messiah 20 Apart 21 Trend 23 Clear

SOLUTION TO No 917 (last Saturday's prize concise) ACROSS: 1 Laughing gas 9 Organic 10 Miasma 11 Hoe 13 Awp 16 Derv 17 Airway 18 Steam 20 Year 21 Pseudo 22 Save 23 Topsy 25 Won 26 Epoch 29 Orbital 30 Hibernation DOWN: 2 Auger 3 Gene 4 Inch 5 Game 6 Abscess 7 Solar system 8 Convertible 12 Opaque 14 Yam 15 Preciso 19 Alveoli 20 Tot 24 Outdo 25 Wheel 26 Noun 27 Obit

OUT AND ABOUT



Back to the future: the Flying Scotsman steams out of London.

Steaming into summer

THE ROYAL SCOTSMAN

The Great Scottish and Western Railway Company offers luxury three and six-day tours in the Scottish Highlands. The Royal Scotsman runs twice weekly from Edinburgh's Waverley Station from Tuesday until October 24. Prices start at £950 for three days. Details from Abercrombie & Kent, Sloane Square House, Holbein Place, London SW1 (01-730 9600).

ORIENT EXPRESS

From now until the autumn the Venice Simplon-Orient Express is running regular day excursions from London to different parts of Britain. Every Thursday and Sunday until November 16 it travels from Victoria Station to the 13th-century Hever Castle in Kent, or to Folkestone. Three-course lunches and a traditional English cream tea are provided on both excursions and tickets cost between £70-£90.

Every Saturday morning from May 3 to September 27 it leaves Waterloo Station carrying day return passengers along the route to Bourne-mouth, the original destination of the famous Bournemouth Belle. There are stops at Broadlands, once the home of the late Earl of Mountbatten, and at Beaulieu, owned by Lord and Lady Montagu. Brunch, wine, cream teas and Bucks Fizz included. Tickets cost between £90-£99.

OUTINGS

GERRY COTTE'S CIRQUE: Recently returned from the Far East, Cottle will demonstrate the arts of Chinese circus using illusion, pantomime and acrobatic skills. Midsummer Meadow, Northampton. Today 2, 5pm. Adult £3, £5, child £2, £3. HENRY VIII AND ANNE BOLYEN: A new exhibition created by Barnum and Natans the theatrical costumiers about Anne's early life at Dover where she was courted by Henry. Hever Castle, Edenbridge, Kent (0732 863224). Today-Nov 2, daily noon-5, 15pm. Adult £3, child £1.50. "CHAMPIONS ALL": GYMNASTICS: Top men and women gymnasts from China, the United States, West Germany, Italy, Bulgaria, Romania, Czechoslovakia,

Five rail companies hope to recapture the spirit of steam this year. Royal Scotsman tours emphasize luxury and nostalgia. The Orient Express offers day excursions in restored carriages, and the Steam Locomotive Operators Association lays on trips in historic locomotives along country lines. Pullman Rail have repainted coaches in their original colours.

Details from Venice Simplon-Orient Express Reservations Office, Sea Containers House, 20 Upper Ground, London SE1 (01-928 6000).

SCOTRAIL

ScotRail is again running its popular steam excursion along the spectacular route from Fort William to Mallaig. The trains will be operating from May 22 through to September 25. Return fare is £9 (4.50 for children). Details from ScotRail West Highland Transportation Centre, Fort William PA33 6AN (0397-37911).

PULLMAN RAIL

On Thursdays from May 1 to September 25 The Shakespeare will take passengers from Marylebone Station to Stratford-upon-Avon. A six-hour visit is followed by the return journey, which includes dinner accompanied by medieval minstrel. Fare: £42 return.

STEAM LOCOMOTIVE OPERATORS ASSOCIATION

Most of SLOA's profits from their steam haulage excursions are ploughed back into maintaining their historic locomotives. Among the famous engines used for tours are the Sir Lamiel, the Evening Star and the King George V.

Today the William Shakespeare leaves Marylebone Station for Stratford. Return fare approximately £32. Later trips include: April 26: The West Riding tour leaves Kings Cross. Return fare approximately £29. May 16: Thames-Eben Express. Kings Cross to York-Carlisle and return. No fare details yet. May 31 and June 28: The Red Dragon train is a round trip from Paddington via Swindon, Gloucester, Newport and Hereford. Approximate fare £36. Light refreshments available on all trains. For details of all trips send 9x4in a.s.c. to SLOA Marketing, PO Box 269, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

WEEKLY WALKS

HEREFORD & WORCESTER: Offa's Dyke Distance: 9 miles For most of its length, Offa's Dyke divided Mercia (middle England) from the Welsh principdoms on a fairly straight, fairly north-south line. Above Kingsbury, however, Offa has taken a line which swings through 90° to give command over the Vale of Radnor and its principal debouchment into Mercia. Come out of Kingston on the Offa's Dyke Path going north (from the town centre) and follow the acorn signs off to the right and climb on to Ruslock Hill via the golf



course on Bradnor Hill. Please observe golfing etiquette, remaining silent and, when golfers nearby are making strokes, stock-still. The three very trees on the ridge are variously the Three Sisters or the Three Shepherds. Continue along the Dyke on to Herrock Hill (the Dyke Path turns right to go to Kull) and drop down to cross the A44 at Dunfield and reach the foot of Herrock Ridge. The direct route back to Kingston takes a path to the left by woodland: those with legs to spare can climb to the col between Herrock and Hamer Hill to return over Herrock Ridge. The top of the Ridge boasts the old trotting racecourse and the Whetstone, a stone which is said to descend to the river each day to drink. The OS map is sheet 148 (Prestige and Hay-on-Wye).

Sara Driver

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Iain Liddell

and Torrance Watkins-Fleischmann, Dressage Thurs and Fri from 9am; cross-country April 19 11am-5.30pm. April 20, show jumping at 11am. Badminton House, Badminton, Avon (04542 1272). Apr 17-20. Admission 17, 18, 20: £6 per car; 19: £13 per car. Season ticket: £22.

Judy Froshaug

competition, and equipment, herbs and plants for sale. Brighton Centre, Kings Road, Brighton, East Sussex (0273 203131). Today, tomorrow 11am-6pm. Adult £1, child 75p. BEYOND THE SHORE: Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (01-589 6323). Tue-May 9, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2.30-6pm. Free. WHITEHEAD CHAMPIONSHIPS: International equestrian three-day event. Top riders include Gerry Laru, Lucinda Green, Mark Todd.

SOLUTION TO JUMBO CROSSWORD

YOU CANNOT GET A BLOOD FROM A STONE AN UNCLE PASCALIA LAUREN LUNSTOCKS LAUGHABLE LUCIFER STRATOSPHERE REINTEGRATION PALATINATE PERSEUS GALANTINE HELTERS SKELTER SMALL HOLDING A K R I S O A N E R R E I S S U E S I N G L E T O N C E P E R A T E M N A L L Y I I S N C A R G U S D I S A P P E A R C A S E A G A R C O L L E R C I D L U E R A S U R E A J A C C I O D E L P H I N O I D U T E L T C O U E R S E P P E T E T R A V A L E N T A N T L I O N W E L S H E S I E M S C I S P M I O C C A M P I T T A L C A T R O A T E S T I M A B L E A P S I T U A E S I N C A I N L E T T H E C O B B L E R S T I C K T O H I S L A S T

The five winners of the Easter Jumbo Crossword published on Saturday March 29 are: Rev. J.F. Morris, Our Lady's Convent, Park Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire; Mrs P. Winterbourne, Wellington New Road, Taunton, Somerset; H. Galazka, Kinnard Close, Bromley, Kent; Mrs D. Payne, Leyland Road, New Cross, London SE14; and A. McGowan, Dergynon Place, Dublin Road, Omagh, Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland. Each will receive a prize of £50.

BRIDGE

Secrets of the grand slam

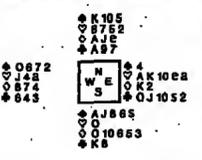
The excitement of slam bidding, initially responsible for Contract Bridge displacing Auction, remains one of the main attractions of the game. Slam Bidding by Hugh Kelsey (Victor Gollancz, £4.95 paperback) is a revised edition of a work originally published in 1973. The author states that "there has been no technical revolution in recent years". This is true of the weapons used at the summit. There has been no significant addition to the armoury of asking bids, cue bids and control finding conventions.

But there has been a considerable change in the methods employed at the foothills. In the 1960s, it was common practice to year at the American for failing to force on good hands. Today, as Kelsey points out, some powerful hands require bidding space to develop. He cites this example:

openings. With this exception, Slam Bidding is a comprehensive and lucidly presented account of the subject.

The Rixi Markus Book of Bridge (Willow Books, £9.95) is a most handsome publication. Rixi has contributed a column to her newspaper for more than 30 years. Openly impatient of conventions, she is almost as well known for her trenchant views as for her aggressive bidding. I remember one of her admirers once saying, "That's the sort of player I like, calls a spade two spades".

Here is a hand that Rixi played in a tournament in 1981. Pairs. Game all. Dealer East.



If partner opens one spade, the best final strain is uncertain. Partner must wait to learn that you have a good hand until a fit is established. It is a pity that in the revised edition the author did not take the opportunity of describing the greater accuracy conveyed by transfer bids, especially after no trump

which Rixi ruffed. A losing diamond finesse allowed East to play a third heart, forcing declarer again. West now had four spades to declare three. But East's revealing bidding pointed to the winning line. Rixi cashed the ♠A and finessed dummy's ♠K. After cashing the ♠K, a volley of diamonds left West impotent to score more than his winning trump. A good example of Rixi's concept of "playing with a second trump suit".

I wish I could recommend George Peche's Intervention Bridge at the Table, available from Bibliogary (£3.60), because this short monograph contains much sound advice, expressed in the no-nonsense style that ordinary players appreciate. Unfortunately, in the interest of economy, the printers have "condensed the illustrative deals typographically". I am afraid modern bridge players are too spoilt to accept a horizontal form of display without even the help of symbols to assist the eye. For those who find the new rules a little confusing, Richard Brightling and Hugh Kelsey have produced The Rubber Bridge Laws Flipper, £1.95. It should curtail the interminable exchanges of bridge room lawyers.

Jeremy Flint

IN THE GARDEN

Colour all the year round

How careful use of shrubs and trees can keep gardens blooming



Magnolia Stellata, left, and Prunus cerasifera

The determined gardener can always find something to bring indoors and brighten up the house. I know of one couple who manage to keep a vase filled with colour from the garden a full twelve months of the year. This should be within the range even of those with small gardens.

Lonicera fragrantissima is a semi-evergreen whose creamy white scented flowers appear from the axils of the leaves; Daphne mezereum is rather more compact with rich pink scented flowers near the tips of the shoots. Also invaluable for indoor display, Hamamelis mollis pallida is a big shrub with ascending branches wreathed in pale yellow scented blooms with unusual strap-shaped petals.

Attaining a height of up to 40ft, Arbutus unedo, one of the strawberry trees, bears both bell-shaped flowers and orange fruits at the same time. Much smaller and a good lawn specimen is Prunus cerasifera Trautmanii, whose blushing pinky-white flowers are set off by rich plum purple foliage. Magnolia stellata comes into flower about now, a small tree usually covered with

masses of white star-like flowers on leafless branches. This magnolia is quite compact in growth; Parrotia persica is larger with rather untidy branchwork. Parrotia needs to be sited so the branches grow over a garden seat or walkway as its red flowers, which are really bunches of stamens, face downward and are not easily seen.

Camellia japonica is a fine evergreen which produces masses of flowers at this time of year, ranging through pinks and reds. One of the finest of the camellias, and a must for lime-free soils, is C. x Williamsii J. C. Williams whose single pink flowers can completely cover the bush. An herbaceous plant popular with floral artists for its

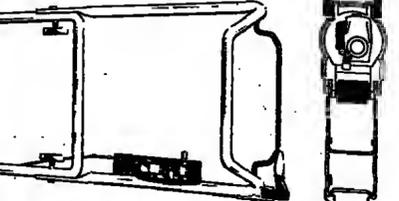
creamy white blooms is Begonia hybrid silveritch.

Also currently in flower are the low growing purple and red aubretias. Finally, Narcissus bulbocodium, the Hoop Petticoat narcissus, provides yellow flowers on 6in stems to complete the picture.

Ashley Stephenson



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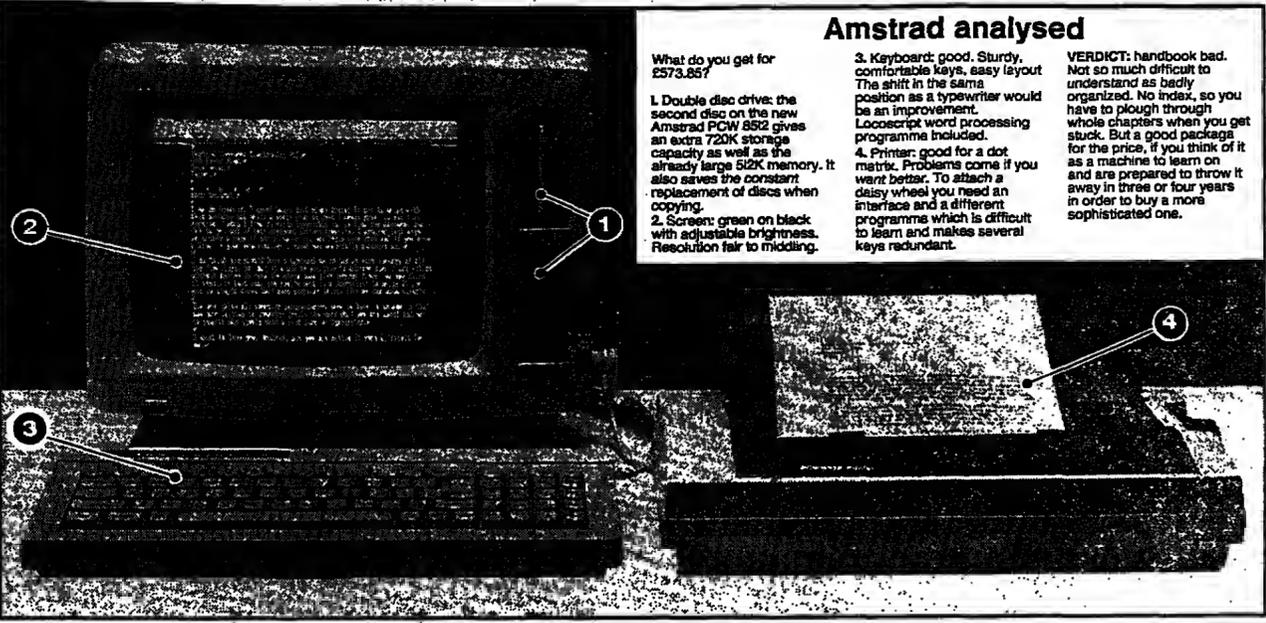
Don't take too big a byte

The Amstrad-Sinclair link will open new vistas for computer buffs. Meanwhile, Beryl Downing explains the basics

This week's computer marriage between Amstrad and Sinclair closes a chapter for the electronics industry but opens a whole new book for the personal computer buyer.

games and owners were firing of their new toys. But since the introduction of Amstrad's all-in package - computer, screen and printer for £399 - they are now being used more productively, mainly as word processors.

struggling with a new language there is no point in asking advice from the natives - they always speak too fast for you to understand their directions. So here is my fool's guide to computers to help you to decide whether to buy now or to wait until the Amstrad/Sinclair marriage has produced offspring.



Amstrad analysed

What do you get for £573.88?

- 1. Double disc drive: the second disc on the new Amstrad PCW 8512 gives an extra 720K storage capacity as well as the already large 512K memory. It also saves the constant replacement of discs when copying.
2. Screen: green on black with adjustable brightness. Resolution fair to middling.

- 3. Keyboard: good. Sturdy, comfortable keys, easy layout. The shift in the same position as a typewriter would be an improvement.
4. Printer: good for a dot matrix. Problems come if you want better. To attach a daisy wheel you need an interface and a different programme which is difficult to learn and makes several keys redundant.

VERDICT: handbook bad. Not so much difficult to understand as badly organized. No index, so you have to plough through whole chapters when you get stuck. But a good package for the price, if you think of it as a machine to learn on and are prepared to throw it away in three or four years in order to buy a more sophisticated one.

DRINK

Bright sparks on the Marks shelves

Marks & Spencer is the apple of Mrs Thatcher's eye, and of everyone else's, it seems. As purveyors of some of the finest foodstuffs in the land, from frozen prawns to sandwiches, M & S's quest for quality is undisputed.

There is, however, one area of its food department where St Michael's halo shines a lot less brightly: that of the wine section. This is not, as I once thought, because Marks & Spencer has a different policy when selecting wines, rather than foods, for its shelves. As Gary Jenkins, its merchandise manager for wines and previously with various food departments, pointed out to me this week: "Our wine-buying policy is the same as foods. As with everything in the store we are aiming at good quality and value for money."

Why, then, does Marks & Spencer have such a disappointing wine selection? The company first started to sell wine 12 years ago. Originally only half-a-dozen obvious wines such as claret, chianti and liebfraumilch were sold.

Unlike competitors, such as Sainsbury and Waitrose, M & S has a very limited area in which to sell wine. So the company was forced from the beginning to concentrate on a limited range of big-selling lines. In 1982, however, it introduced its more upmarket Vintage Selection range which followed on from the successful introduction of a few petits chateaux clarets and the like. Mr Jenkins describes this move as a "deliberate policy of widening our range to make people take us seriously as a wine merchant".

Since then the Vintage Selection range has grown to include about 14 different wines, representing a quarter of the total M & S wine list.

Certainly it is an improvement on the usual M & S range of lambrusco (both red and white), Asti Spumante, liebfraumilch and so on. But, once again, the quality for the most part is just not good enough. This, I feel, may be due, in part, to the company's tradition of constantly moving its buyers - or selectors, in the M & S parlance - from department to department. The previous wine selector left to look after the delicatessen; the current one previously worked in the Paris head office as a textile merchandiser.

Still, Mr Jenkins promised me that Marks & Spencer will continue to develop its wine range. This summer sees the arrival of a new country wine selection from France and Italy, featuring the lesser known regional wines that "the locals drink". The company is also trying hard to fill in the gaps in its range and is conducting trials with new tipplers such as its canned Cooler range.

Thankfully, there are still a handful of Marks & Spencer wines whose quality is among the best that the high street produces. I have always admired its Chablisienne co-operative. While the price has crept up to £5.50 due, understandably, to

the chablis shortage, the latest 1984 vintage is everything chablis should be: an attractive green-gold colour plus that fresh green vegetal taste which white burgundy fans, including myself, adore.

I am also fond of the one-litre bottle of St Michael's French Foll Red which, priced at £3.25, has been the best buy in the wine department since its introduction. It is actually a Cotes du Roussillon Villages from a region that borders the Mediterranean in south-west France. With its 12 per cent alcohol, handsome purple colour and lively spicy

raspberry/redcurrant smell and taste, it is good value for money.



Joyce MacDonnell

Slightly less pleasing, perhaps, but again good value at £2.99, is the St Michael Vintage Selection 1983 Claret from Gaillarde. I especially like its young cassis-like bouquet even if its fresh grassy palate was less impressive. Marks & Spencer usually has some good champagnes on offer. While I cannot recommend the new rose, its Blanc de Blancs Champagne from the Union co-operative with its crisp flowery Chardonnay flavour makes an excellent April sparkler. At £8.99, it also happens to be the star buy among Marks & Spencer's more expensive wines. Let us hope it is joined soon by other wines of the same ilk.

Jane MacQuitty

INTERESTED IN CHEESE? WELCOME TO THE CLUB

Out now, the Paston & Whitfield Cheese Club catalogue for Summer 1986 has the classic cheeses and notable newcomers that will be offered to members over the coming months. It details their histories, methods of making and suitable complementary wines.

As a member, you receive a balanced selection of three cheeses each month. You can also select extra cheeses from an additional list. You may choose your date for delivery and they will arrive at your door at the peak of perfection, there is no obligation to buy every month's selection.

For details of membership ring 01-726 5262 within normal office hours or write to the Paston & Whitfield Cheese Club, Dept T, FREEPOST, 93 Jermy Street, London SW1 6JH.

Paston & Whitfield Ltd

BASICS

The PC (personal computer) consists of a typewriter-style keyboard, tv-type screen (monitor), disc drive and printer. All these components can be bought individually. The keyboard can be linked to a small portable television but this will not give such clear resolution as a purpose-made monitor. If you build up your own system you will also need a word processor programme. This is built-in to packaged systems.

Other terms you will need to know include:

Byte: Measurement of memory. 1 Kilobyte (1K) stores 1,000 characters of information - letters, figures, punctuation. 1,000K=1 megabyte. The more Ks the better.

Display: The text the computer puts on the screen.

Floppy Disc: Tape which receives and stores messages from the computer.

Hardware: The computer and the mechanical equipment connected to it.

Interface: Additional hardware or software needed to make the computer work with other hardware.

Resolution: How clear the display is on the screen.

Software: Programmes on floppy or hard disc.

WHAT NEXT?

What do you want to do? Most home users (other than games players) use a computer for word processing - writing letters and other texts. A computer will also handle household accounts, file addresses and keep records. Small businesses can use it for stock control and financial planning.

Consider whether it might be an asset to carry your computer about. If so, wait for more advanced models to appear.

Is it compatible? Some computers will only work with their particular manufacturers' extras. This is vitally important: if you have to connect with a company's main computer. Otherwise make sure that the programmes available are what you need.

Do you like the keyboard? Make sure that it is sturdy and comfortable. If you use a typewriter as well, see that things like the shift key are where you expect.

Is the handbook comprehensive? The Apple Macintosh is excellent - you can teach yourself from it. The Amstrad is so badly arranged that users are having to go on courses costing £200 before they can cope. Amstrad please note: all handbooks need an index.

HOW MUCH?

Personal computers capable of performing small business functions cost from about £300 to £5,000.

Computer expert David Hewson edits the Wordsmith, a new magazine for writers which offers specialized information on word processors. He advises you not to consider one under £399 plus VAT, the price of the original Amstrad £256 (computer prices always exclude VAT).

"Don't buy something which is just adequate for your present needs - it can be the worst economy under the sun", he advises. "Never consider an outdated model at a give-away price, but take advantage of the best price available on the current models - the differences can be startling."

If in doubt you can always rent. This gives you the opportunity to try different models or simply to make up your mind whether you need a PC at all. CCA Micro Rentals in Fulham, London, for example, offer IBM, Compaq, Apple and Apricot on daily, weekly and monthly terms. The cost is about 10 per cent of the purchase price per month (these machines range from £1,700 to £6,000).

If you want to buy at the end of your rental period you will be offered a generous rebate.

PRINTERS

There are three types - dot matrix, daisy wheel and laser. The dot matrix is the least expensive but sometimes produces text which is difficult to read. The better ones print the dots so close together that the result is much more like that of a typewriter, but is still not of a high enough quality for important documents. Prices are about £250 and brands recommended by the Wordsmith include the Epson, Star and Canon. The Amstrad printer is dot matrix but of reasonably good quality.

Daisy wheel printers produce excellent quality but are extremely slow, which defeats one of the main purposes of buying a computer. They can be used in conjunction with an electronic typewriter which needs to be adapted for the purpose. Prices are from £300 to £2,000.

Laser printers are the newest. They use photocopying technology and produce a high quality result almost equivalent to typesetting. But they are expensive at the moment - from £1,800. Prices are expected to come down within two years. This is a point to bear in mind when considering any home computer - you are investing in a new industry and improvements are being made all the time.

YOUR NEEDS

Writers and freelance public relations consultants need word processing, filing, good printing. The new Amstrad £512 (illustrated) offers the best package, including printer, for £499. No other PCs have printers included in the price, so there is a gap of around £500 between Amstrad and the rest for a complete package.

Graphic artists, small clubs and house journal producers need the ability to do layouts and draw on screen. For them nothing matches the Apple Macintosh Plus at £2,295 without printer.

Small businesses need word processing and possibly financial spreadsheets and stock control. They could consider the new Amstrad if they are prepared to regard it as a learning tool. A longer-term choice could be anything IBM compatible. These include the Compaq (£4,249), and the transportable Philips P2000 (£1,093). The IBM PC itself costs £1,805. Its specialized programmes will also help professionals who take work home - surveyors, solicitors, architects, for instance.

Educationalists and programming enthusiasts liked the BBC Model B, which is no longer made. The new model is the BBC Master at £500 without printer.

WHERE TO BUY

Go to shops which have a good range of hardware well displayed. You need to be able to sit down and try the feel of computers, so the shops that keep them on shelves like boxes of detergent will not give you adequate advice.

I found Dixons the most helpful of the high street chains (although not all branches may have assistants with the knowledge and experience I encountered). John Lewis, too, was extremely helpful.

The salesman gave expert attention to my requirements and spent half an hour advising and demonstrating, without any attempt at a hard sell.

Otherwise, if you have a friendly local specialist who gives good after-sales service, take advantage of the personal interest you could build up. If you are spending a lot of money, a training course is often included in the price.

Useful Addresses CCA Micro Rentals, Unit 7/8, Imperial Studios, Imperial Road, London SW6 (01-731 4310) for computer hire. The Wordsmith, bi-monthly at £1.25 per issue or £6.75 per year, from Mandarin Publishing, The Old House, Church Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

THE TIMES COOK

An English dish with all seasonings

Was there life before hamburgers? Yes, says Shona Crawford Poole

Beef Cecils are what you might call old-fashioned hamburgers. They have no need of pickles and relishes to perk up their flavour because a liberal seasoning of anchovies, lemon zest, parsley and Worcestershire sauce is built into the beef. The recipe comes from A Taste of England by Theodora FitzGibbon which was published yesterday by Pan, price £4.95. This latest in the series which has covered Scotland, Wales, the West Country, London, Yorkshire and the Lake District since the first book, A Taste of Ireland, appeared in 1968, offers another generous slice of our domestic heritage.

Nineteenth-century photographs of ordinary people at work and play face recipes for their everyday and festive fare. Locality, ingredients and anecdote are sewn together most satisfyingly.

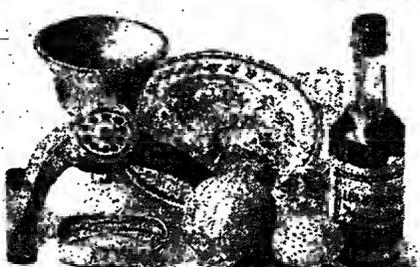
In 1835, Lord Sandys, who had recently returned from India, approached them to make up an Indian sauce recipe for him. In addition to Lord Sandys's order they also made a few jars for their own use, but on tasting it, found it so unpalatable it was consigned to the cellar and forgotten.

"Some years later they came across their jars, but before throwing them out they tasted the sauce again and found it matured and delicious. Thus Lea and Perrins set about making this original sauce in 1837 from the Indian recipe and so it has remained."

- Beef Cecils Serves four
450g (1lb) lean, raw minced beef
1 medium onion, finely chopped
55g (2oz) white breadcrumbs
Grated rind of 1/2 large lemon
Salt and pepper
4 anchovy filets, drained and chopped
1 tablespoon parsley, chopped
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
1 egg, beaten
30g (1oz) butter

Mix all the ingredients except the butter in a bowl and fold well in. Divide the mixture into 12 balls, then shape them into flat round cakes. At this point you can either roll them in beaten egg and breadcrumbs and deep fry, or heat the butter in a pan and fry several at a time until golden brown on each side, about seven to 10 minutes.

They can be served either with a wedge of lemon or a few drops of Worcestershire sauce. There are three recipes for home made sausages in A Taste of England of which



this 18th-century formula for skinless Oxford sausages is the oldest. Oxford Sausages Makes about 16

- 225g (8oz) lean pork
225g (8oz) pie veal
140g (5oz) brown breadcrumbs
200g (7oz) shredded suet
Grated rind of 1/2 large lemon
1/2 teaspoon dried sage
1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
1/2 teaspoon grated nutmeg
Freshly ground black pepper

Trim the meats so that no gristy pieces are left. Then mince them both finely; put them through twice if you like a finer texture. Add the breadcrumbs and moisten with two tablespoons of water. Mix well, then add the lemon rind, suet, nutmeg, herbs, salt and pepper, using about one quarter teaspoon of the latter. Mix again.

Flour your hands and form the mixture into sausage shapes to the size you like.

Then place them on a lightly floured dish or board. They can be chilled until you need to cook them.

Heat up either a little oil or butter, or a mixture, and when it is hot (but not too hot) fry each sausage for about five minutes on each side, or until it is golden brown and a little crusty.

They are delicious served either for breakfast with eggs or bacon, says Theodora FitzGibbon, or for luncheon with butter beans and onions. There are authentic recipes for place-name dishes like Melton Mowbray pork pie, Bakewell pudding, Grasmere gingerbread, Tweed katie, and Lincolnshire stuffed chine. And there are all-but-forgotten specialties like clove sausage, pancakes, mushroom pudding and cel stew.

Not surprisingly a great many old English puddings involve apples and most of the recipes are variations on familiar themes. But Nottingham pudding, which consists of whole stuffed apples in a baked batter, is new to me.

Diana Lamberton

Nottingham pudding

Serves six

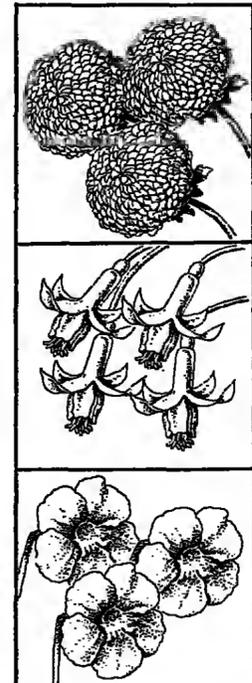
- 6 medium, even-sized Bramley apples
85g (3oz) butter
85g (3oz) caster sugar
A pinch each of nutmeg and cloves
6 tablespoons flour
3 eggs
About 300ml (1/2 pint) milk
Pinch of salt

Peel and core the apples and keep them in salted water until needed. Cream the butter and sugar until light and add the nutmeg and cloves. Fill the centres of the drained apples with this mixture. Put the apples in a well buttered ovenproof dish.

Blend the flour with a little cold water, add the well-beaten eggs and a pinch of salt. Then add enough milk to make a thick, creamy batter. Pour the batter over the apples and bake in a pre-heated moderate oven (180°C/350°F, gas mark 4) for 1 1/2 hours. Serve hot with whipped cream.

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Fuchsias are ideal for hanging baskets. The ten plants consist of five hardy and five basket fuchsias in glorious mixtures of purple, red, white and pink.

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REVIEW



Symphonic scores from Beethoven (left) and Mozart

Musical proof that history isn't bunk

I cannot say whether or not the Orchestra of the 18th Century reproduce any of the styles of that temporally and geographically multifarious period: the question is of course unanswerable, irrelevant and probably meaningless.

But I can say that their performances of symphonies by Mozart and Beethoven, conducted by Frans Bruggen, are miracles of grace, energy, searching musicianship and illumination. One might even feel a bit naughty listening to them, for at last they offer a "historical" style without the usual penitential sound; the strings are light and agile, the wind a bunch of sophisticated individuals, and they all play in tune.

But perhaps what most distinguishes these performances is the evidence of a shaping sensitivity contained within each line. The result seems to be a communal proposal guided and vitalized by Bruggen: a piece of large chamber music. And that allows for a nice ambiguity in much of the Mozart between passionate song and elegant dance, or in the Beethoven for a very startling display of what a startling piece it is.

If we have many more records like this, it is the conventional performances that will start to sound strange. Such comparisons are not, though, the reason for my dissatisfaction with the Beethoven offered by Murray Perahia and the Concertgebouw under Haitink. Nor are those artists partic-

ularly to blame. Perahia, even outside his usual territory, is a constant fund of new ideas - and not just dreamy imaginings but also some very sharp retorts, in the finale of the G major concerto, for instance. But his piano sounds so enormously larger than the orchestra as to destroy any illusion of dialogue; there is the curious impression of a pianist of highly tuned sensibility in an artificial, insensate situation.

Nor, sadly, can I be very encouraging about Haitink's new recording of Shostakovich's "Babi Yar" symphony. Here again (and how necessary it is in this right combination of grimness and nobility, of suffering and work) Haitink provides the serenity, the sense of a composer doomed to grandeur.

The problem is with the solo part, which is all-important (the bass is effectively the spokesman for all those taking part, whether as musicians or as listeners), but which is robbed of its authority here by Marius Rintzler's uncontrolled vibrato. The song cycles - the superb late Tsvetayeva set and the Jewish folk poems - are much better done, with different soloists, and one hopes they may be made available in another form.

The qualities of Haitink's Shostakovich are not so different from those of Abbado's Tchaikovsky, except that Abbado gives more evidence of loving sheer tone quality (though of course Tchaikovsky's tone quality is much easier to love, especially when it is being brought to life by the Chicago Symphony).

His recording of the E Minor Symphony is very pleasurable, even if it does not come near disguising the repetitiveness of the slow movement or what always sounds like a misjudgement of posture in the finale.

It is not, you may gather, very surprising, which certainly cannot be said of the recording of the First Piano Concerto featuring Ivo Pogorelich. Here one barely notices what the orchestra is doing, or indeed what the work is doing, so full of vainglorious eccentricity is the solo playing. With no coupling, this is strictly for the Pogo fans.

Clearly different: Vladimir Horowitz, captured on CD

Recording, especially on compact disc, gives just that illusion of the definitive which Vladimir Horowitz would be the first to reject. Yet here are 11 archetypal performances, frozen into perpetuity and taken from a film, *Horowitz, the last Romantic*, made a year ago and due to be screened on Channel 4.

But it is precisely because Horowitz has been the most volatile of performers all his life, genuinely incapable of giving the same performance twice, that the music seems to shift and change at each listening, so rich in unpredictable detail are these performances.

It would be worth buying the Bach-Busoni/Mozart/Chopin/Rachmaninov CD for single moments like the two opening chords of his Chopin B minor Scherzo, each one a single distillation of the expressive range which is his Mozart. Here Horowitz chooses meticulously from what he has so often spoken of as his instrument's bread and butter of sounds and tones between piano and forte, to find the voices, weights and resonances peculiar to Mozart's language.

His scampering mezzo-staccato in the C major K330 Sonata has a coppery bril-

liance which lets light into its innermost voices and sets up an audacious game of hide-and-seek in the finale. There is Scriabin, Schumann and Liszt, too; and a performance of Schubert's A flat major Impromptu in which the sudden surfacing of a single sympathetic note can recolor and reshape one's entire listening response.

Horowitz at 82 sounds younger than the 34-year-old Zoltan Kocsis whose 1981 recording of Chopin's 19 waltzes has just been released on CD. What these fluent and sensitive performances have always lacked is a sense of the sort of quicksilver response which can catch the breath of the listener and make him wonder as well as admire.

Where they gain is in what Kocsis makes of their sequence. The sparkling gaiety of No 4's "Valse brillante" for instance, rises out of the introspection of the A minor and bounces, in turn, into the eddying passagework of his "Grande Valse".

The Art of Marlon Anderson has just appeared in the HMV Treasury, skillfully transferred from 78s and remastered by Keith Hardwick.

Anderson was the first black singer to be hired by the Met in 1955: the simplicity and dignity of her "He was

despised" cuts through the somewhat boyish resonance of the recording, in her firm steady bass clarinet of a mezzo. One of the most startling tracks is her 1936 recording of Schubert's "Death and the Maiden" in which the voice creates two masks: the vulnerability of youth in her ringing high register and, in an unearthly basso profundo, the stillness of eternity.

Where the inflections of speech rise into folksong, in spiritual or in Scandinavian song, Anderson responds with a reflective, almost private simplicity. Her traditional Finnish "Tuku, tuku" and her "Deep River" become cameos of her performing personality. Canteloube's settings of the folksong of his own region have found similar sympathy in the voice of Frederica von Stade. Her second volume of the Chants d'Auvergne offers the gently retrospective "At the Mirabel Bridge", the wry "Hunchback" and still more vocalized drifting from hilltop to hilltop.

To fill out the first side we have the Chaussonesque Triptyque - steamy, late-Romantic settings of Roger Frère's pantheistic love poetry.

Hilary Finch

Solving the mysteries of France

FILMS ON TV

The BBC has collected an interesting mixed bag of French films from the late 1930s and 1940s, a period of great artistic achievement in the French cinema, which produced masterpieces like Marcel Carné's *Les Enfants du Paradis* and *Le Jour Se Lève* and Renoir's *La Règle du Jeu*. The five films in the BBC season (showing Monday-Friday, 2pm) are not from the top league but they are all enjoyably watchable and demonstrate the depth of talent in the French cinema at the time.

Some of the directors and actors featured are now largely forgotten; others went on to greater acclaim. *The Murderer Lives in Number 21*, made in 1942 (Monday), was Henri-Georges Clouzot's debut as a director. He later went on to make two of the most praised suspense films of the 1950s - *Les Diaboliques* and *The Wages of Fear*. His first film was a tight low-key thriller full of grainy Parisian atmosphere. Pierre Fresnay plays the inspector investigating four murders in Montmartre. He suspects a lodge at the address in the title and moves into the building himself to pursue inquiries.

Rigolboche (1936, Tuesday) is a melodrama worth watching mainly for a rare film appearance of the flamboyant Mistinguett who, together with her lover Maurice Chevalier, dominated the French music hall in the inter-war years. Mistinguett portrays a woman who flees Senegal for Paris after a killing, becomes a famous cabaret star but finds her past catching up with her. *Rigolboche* (her stage name) was directed by the prolific Christian-Jaque, who made more than 50 films, many of them on historical themes.

Love Eternal (1943, Wednesday) is typical of a number of French films made during the war. Prevented by the German occupation from making realistic contemporary films, directors and writers turned to allegory to make their point about the state of France. *Love Eternal*, a huge commercial success at the time, was directed by Jean Delannoy but its true creator was Jean Cocteau who wrote the screenplay - a modern reworking of *Tristan and Isolde* - and was responsible for the surreal images.

The End of the Day (1943, Thursday) has masterful performances by Louis Jouvet, one of the leading stage and film actors of the period, and Michel Simon, the ugly gravelly-voiced character actor of many French films of the 1930s. The title refers to a hope for elderly actors to which Jouvet has just retired.

Legends of the desert crusader

TELEVISION

The legend of T. E. Lawrence - soldier, scholar and romantic philosopher - has not diminished with time. His reputation may have become tarnished but the epithet Lawrence of Arabia, in no small part thanks to David Lean's film, conjures up images of flowing white robes, the burning desert sun and a man's moral integrity.

Omni-Bus Lawrence and Arabia (BBC1, Fri, 10.25-11.55pm), a roaming, reappraising documentary that dispenses conflicting opinion, some skeletons, rarely-seen newsreel footage and photographs by Lawrence, may debunk some of Lean's images and popular myths propagated by the media circus in the 1920s, but the lion-hearted crusader emerges with reputation substantially intact.

Julia Cave, the producer, has assembled a comprehensive collection of witnesses who actually knew the enigmatic man, including his 86-year-old brother and the eloquent Canon Halla friend at school and university, now aged 98.

Their memories, undimmed, raise this excellent programme from the realms of retrospective theory to remembrances of an extraordinary life.

In Horizon: Nice Guys Finish First (BBC 2, Mon, 8.10-9pm). Dr Richard Dawkins, a zoologist from Oxford University, demolishes the "survival of the fittest/strongest" view of evolution with a certain staid pleasure. He shows a world where cheats never prosper and co-operation is mutually beneficial. Put simply, reciprocal altruism boils down to: "If you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours". In that game everyone is a winner.

THE WEEK AHEAD



Double vision: Bernard Blier and Simone Signoret as husband and wife in *The Wanton*

The awakening of old emotions and jealousies among the inmates is sensitively and movingly conveyed. The director Julien Duvivier was one of the great "poet-realists" of the 1930s cinema, whose classics include *Carnet de Bal* and *Pépé-le-Moko*. Friday's offering is *The Wanton (Manèges)*. From a slightly later generation, 1949, it is a very French story of marital infidelity, told through competing flashbacks - one set representing marriage as ideal, the other revealing the truth. Simone Signoret was directed by her then husband, Yves Allégret.

RECOMMENDED

A Damsel in Distress (1937): Fred Astaire without Ginger Rogers (Joan Fontaine substituted) in pleasant Gershwin hit musical. P.G. Wodehouse had a hand in the writing (BBC2, Tues, 3.35-5.15pm). *Because You're Mine* (1952): Mario Lanza was no actor, and the film's plot is irrelevant, but it is a good reminder of an extraordinary singing voice (Channel 4, Tues, 9-10.55pm). *Jules et Jim* (1962): François Truffaut's brilliant, elegant, brilliant study of tangled friendships and love, with Jeanne Moreau

joyously captivating as a girl loved by two men (Channel 4, Wed, 10-11.55pm). *This England* (1941): Uplifting wartime patriotism, following the history of an English village and its stalwart citizens through the centuries. Dated, occasionally insipid but fascinating (Channel 4, Thurs, 5-6.25pm). *Lorna* (1982): John Schlesinger's impressive film about lesbian love is illuminating, unpatronizing, fresh, full of humour, and serious without being preachy (Channel 4, Fri, 11.15pm-12.00am). **First British television showing.*

A celebration of the best of Beckett

RADIO

Tomorrow is Samuel Beckett's official 80th birthday. As readers of *The Times* diary (and of his biography) will know, he was actually born on May 13 - but Radio 3 is going along with Beckett's own version of things and will be celebrating from tomorrow. On that day they will broadcast *All That Fall* (7.30-8.40pm), a play commissioned by the BBC and first heard in 1957. Those wary of Beckett's forbidding reputation would do well to try this relatively light and very funny piece. Set in a kind of imaginary Ireland, full of self-conscious sound effects, it has in its cast two of the great Beckett actors - Jack MacGraw and Patrick Magee.

These two - both blessed with wonderfully compelling voices - can be heard again on Tuesday in *Embers* (Radio 3, 7.30-8.15pm), a piece written specially for them. To Beckett's surprise, this play won the Prix Italia in 1959 - he even attended the award ceremony in Sorrento.

Rough for Radio (Radio 3, Wednesday, 9.45-10.10pm) was first broadcast on Beckett's 70th birthday, and is a translation by the author of his French original. And finally, *A Piece of Monologue* (Friday, 9.10-9.25pm) rounds off the celebrations - which, by the way, have the official Beckett seal of approval. *A Piece of Monologue* is a new production, by Ronald Mason,

of a piece originally written for the stage in 1980, and the reason - Beckett's choice - will be that excellent radio actor Ronald Pickup. This one begins with the definitive utterance, "Birth was the death of him..."

Death on a grand scale is the subject of a fascinating investigation into the plague epidemics of the Middle Ages by Geoff Watts. *The Only Sickness* (Radio 4, tomorrow, 10.15-11pm) looks particularly at the disease, and wonders whether bubonic plague alone was responsible.

More appetizingly, a new panel game called *Questions of Taste* (Radio 4, today, 12.27-1pm) begins with Russell Davies in the chair. The subject is food and drink, and the two teams will be led by foodie Paul Levy and oenophile Oz Clarke.

It's Your World (Radio 4, tomorrow, 12.10-1pm) returns with a new series of international phone-ins. David Lane, the controversial New Zealand prime minister, is first into the rather tepid hot seat. Over on Radio 3, *Continental Cabaret* (Chansons tonight, 11-11.30pm) will be exploring the history of European cabaret for the next eight weeks, with recordings of many legendary voices from Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Zurich, and so on. The first programme includes rare waxings of Yvette Guilbert and Aristide Bruant - not to mention the Comedien Harmonists, evoking "The Crocodile Bar on the River Nile".

Nigel Andrew

TIMES CHOICE

Mass D 950, arranged by Collegium Musicum under Edin Colomer. St John's Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1061). Tues, 7.30pm. **NOVELTY NOVELTY:** The Poole Oboe Quartet plays works by Mozart, Schubert, Franck, Knussen, and Ivor Novello's *Starlight*. Wigmore Hall, 35 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 2141). Wed, 7.30pm. **PIERS LANE:** An admirable pianist, Piers Lane performs Beethoven's *Appassionata* Sonata Op 57, Rachmaninov's *Preludes* Op 23 and the luxuriant Schütz-Evier *Blues Danube* Paraphrase. Queen Elizabeth Hall, Wed, 7.45pm. **OPUS 20:** This string ensemble follows up its promising January debut

Groves conducts the LPO in Borodin's *Prince Igor* Overture, Shostakovich's Violin Concerto No 1 (soloist, Lydia Mordkovich) and Tchaikovsky's *Sleeping Beauty* Suite. Royal Festival Hall, Fri, 7.45pm.

ROCK AND JAZZ

ARILD ANDERSEN: Known for his work on the ECM label, specializing in muted chamber-jazz, the Norwegian bassist brings his quintet to Britain for the first time. Tonight, Donmar Warehouse, Earham Street, London WC2 (01-240 8230). **FINE YOUNG CANNIBALS:** Led by the distinctively soulful voice of Roland Gift, this band deserved the reputation they made last year. Now can they maintain the momentum?

Tonight, Queen's Hall, Edinburgh (031 668 3456); Mon, St George's Hall, Bradford (0274 75200); Tues, Powerhouse, Birmingham (021 643 4715); Wed, Town and Country Club, 9-17 Highbury Park, London NW5 (01-267 3334).

JENNIFER RUSH: "The Power of Love", by Barbra Streisand out of Dorna Summer, gave her instant membership of the club of one-hit wonders. Most people don't even manage that. Tomorrow, Edinburgh Playhouse (031 557 2590); Tues, Sheffield City Hall (0742 73295); Thurs, Birmingham Odson (021 643 8101); Fri, Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham (0502 472320).

BILLY COBHAM: The hero of the world's jazz-rock drummers brings in his own band, Class Menagerie. Tues, Fairfield Hall, Croydon (01-688 9291); Wed and Thurs, Dingwall, Camden Lock, Chalk Farm Road, London NW1 (01-267 4967).

TEMPTATIONS: Once a five-faced jewel in Motown's crown, responsible for more classic records from "My Girl" to "Papa Was a Rollin' Stone", they were also the sharpest dancers on a label noted for hot choreography. Wed to Fri, Hammersmith Odeon, Queen Caroline Street, London W6 (01-748 4061).

Concerts Max Harrison: Rock & Jazz Richard Williams: Bookings: Anne Whitehouse

CONCERTS

KOENIG/LPO: Jan Latham-Koenig conducts the LPO in Glinka's *Ruslan and Lyudmila* Overture, Handel's *Music for the Royal Fireworks*, Beethoven's Symphony No 5, and Howard Shelly solos in Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No 2. Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-628 8795, credit cards 01-638 8891). Today, 8pm.

VLADO PERLEMUTER: The veteran pianist plays Chopin's *Etudes* Op 25, Haydn's *Valises Nobles et Sentimentales*, Beethoven's *Les Adieux* Sonata Op 81a. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, credit cards 01-928 8800). Tomorrow, 3pm.

ROZHDESTVENSKY/LSO: The LSO is conducted by the Russian virtuoso in a suite from Rimsky-Korsakov's *Tzar Sultan*, Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto (soloist, Frank Zimmermann) and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No 4. Barbican Centre. Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

ALL MOZART: Symphony No 35 *Haffner* precedes the *Requiem* performed by the London Philharmonic Choir, Orchestra and soloists. Royal Jesus Lopez-Cobos. Royal Festival Hall, Tomorrow, 3.15pm.

HAYDN/SCHUBERT: Haydn's Symphony No 104 London and Schubert's

with a programme including *Elegy* by Elliott Carter (above), rather intense Suite by Lou Harrison and a new piece by Scott Stroman. St John's, Thurs, 7.30pm, 7.30pm. **LPO/GROVES:** Sir Charles

with a programme including *Elegy* by Elliott Carter (above), rather intense Suite by Lou Harrison and a new piece by Scott Stroman. St John's, Thurs, 7.30pm, 7.30pm. **OPUS 20:** This string ensemble follows up its promising January debut

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BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE Wagner cycle by Welsh National Opera sung in English. Sept 25-Oct 2. Tickets from £7.50. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE: Bookings open for 25th season with productions of *The Chalk Garden*, *The Relapse*, *Jane Eyre* and *Annie Get Your Gun*. April-June. Chichester Festival Theatre, Chichester, East Sussex (0243 781312).

THE RING: Postal bookings open Mon for complete

LAST CHANCE **POSTERS OF THE FORTIES AND FIFTIES:** Third in series from the archive collection including works by Edward Bawden, Graham Sutherland and William Turnbull. Ends tomorrow. Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (01-821 1313).

A NOISE IN YOUR EYE: Collection of objects which ping,inkle and clang. Ends tomorrow. Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 4141).

THE WEEK AHEAD



RADIO SMALL WORLD: Johnny Morris combines his best-known roles of globe-trotter and broadcaster for Around the World in 25 Years...



ROCK SOLID SOUL: James Brown, the great singer who stripped away the frimmings of pop music...



THEATRE FUNNY GIRL: Maureen Lipman leads the Leonard Bernstein musical, Wonderful Town!



CONCERTS ROUND THE HORN: Barry Tuckwell is the soloist in the world premiere of the Rhapsody for Horn...



OPERA REVIVED ROSSINI: Ann Murray, Dublin-born but British trained, sings her first Covent Garden Rossini...



TELEVISION BIG MATCH: Bobby Moore is one of The Boys of '66, a documentary presented by Michael Parkinson...

THE TIMES CHOICE

THEATRE IN PREVIEW

ANGRY HOUSEWIVES: Belinda Lang replaces Carlene Carter, alongside Diane Langton, Mary Maddox, Louise Gold...

OPENINGS

THE GAMBLER: New version of a play with music, first seen in 1980. Written by Mel Smith...



by Mel Smith (above), Bob Goody, Peter Brewis, Smith, Goody, Paul Brown and Philip Davis are featured, with a band including Eric Burdon, Bob Crichley and Mark Stevens...

SELECTED

ORPHANS: Albert Finney, Kevin Anderson and Jessi Fahy grace an ordinary American psycho-drama with cracking performances. Apollo (01-437 2663).

OUT OF TOWN

BATH: Present Laughter: Francis Matthews, Angela Browne, Helen Christie, Judi Trotter lead in a new touring production of Noel Coward's comedy...

PHOTOGRAPHY

CELEBRATION OF THE MOTOR CAR: Wide-ranging exploration of the motor car covering 100 years. Lots of nostalgia and fun...

OPENINGS

BRETTON MENAGERIE: Mixed work by 23 sculptors including Elizabeth Fink and Terry Hammill in new exhibition area...

GALLERIES

ICONS AND REVOLUTION: Painting, drawing, prints and posters from the Weimar Republic, seen in their social context...

SELECTED

HAYWARD ANNUAL: The best of British contemporary art, as selected by lecturer Jon Thompson and gallery director, Barry Barker...

FILMS

THE STUFF (15): Larry Cohen's cheeky horror comedy celebrates the exploits of a yoghurt-like dessert that gobbles up people from the inside...

OPENINGS

KINO - SOVIET CINEMA NOW: A valuable two-week season of recent Soviet films, opening with Tango of our Childhood...

SELECTED

COCA-COLA: An intriguing exhibition exploring over 100 years of design for the bottles and cans containing the world's favourite non-alcoholic drink...

OPERA

ROYAL OPERA: Today at 6.30pm a concert performance, as part of the London International Opera Festival, of Rossini's Semiramide...

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA

ROYAL OPERA: Today at 6.30pm a concert performance, as part of the London International Opera Festival, of Rossini's Semiramide...

KENT OPERA

At Eastbourne this week with two performances of Jonathan Miller's La traviata (Wed and Fri 19). Also, on Thurs and Fri their new production of Monteverdi's The Coronation of Poppea...

OPERA NORTH

At Hull with two performances each of Philip Cox's powerful new Aida, now with Valeria Popova in the title role (Tues and Fri) and of their silent-movie style Fanciulla del West (Wed and Fri 19). Neither should be missed...

AMERICAN BALLROOM

THEATRE: Four couples, led by exhibition champions Pierre Dulaing and Yvonne Marceau, put ballroom dancing to theatrical purpose. Today matinee and evening, and Mon-Apr 19. Sadler's Wells (01-278 8916).

ROYAL BALLET

Only one performance this week, on Wed, of Romeo and Juliet with Leoley Collier and Wayne Eagling in the title roles. Covent Garden (01-240 1066).

A ROOM WITH A VIEW

ON TOUR: London Festival Ballet performs Coppelia at the Congress Theatre, Eastbourne (0323 36363) today, then Mon-Apr 19 at the New Theatre, Cardiff (0222 32448); London Contemporary Dance Theatre gives two programmes with works by Siobhan Davies, Robert Cohan, Jerome Robbins and others at Birmingham Hippodrome (021 6227846) Wed-Apr 19; Northern Ballet Theatre visits the Arts Centre, Poole (0202 685222) Tues-Apr 19.

For ticket availability, performance and opening times, telephone the numbers listed. Theatre: Tony Patrick and Martin Cropper; Galleries: Sarah Jane Checkland; Photography: Michael Young; Films: Geoff Brown; Dance: John Percival; Opera: Hilary Finch

Gentle guide and good companion



With stylish ease, Jacquetta Hawkes combines a love of archaeology with anecdote

When J.B. Priestley died two years ago, Jacquetta Hawkes, his widow, decided that she could not keep the house near Stratford which they had shared for more than a quarter of a century, but that she would stay nearby, in the Cotswold country she loves. This week she made her move, to a square, yellow stone house on one main street of Chipping Campden, having concluded, as she puts it, that declining years are more sensibly spent in, and not outside, the villages. This week she also paid one of her rare visits to London; her new book, The Shell Guide to British Archaeology, is published on Monday. She is relieved that both events are over. When I arrived to see her in Chipping Campden she was typing hard, at work on an already late contribution to a new guide to the history of British art. Her new book is the first guide of its kind to include both Roman and prehistoric England, Wales and Scotland; it is written for those with no special knowledge, one of Jacquetta Hawkes's particular marks as an archaeologist having been as a guide to the interested but ignorant. Although she bristles slightly when anyone refers to her as a popularizer, protesting that what she tries to do is awaken the imagination, she unquestionably possesses that very rare and much-prized talent for combining accurate science with an easy literary style. Did it happen by choice? "I don't think I ever plan anything. It happens. I could have been a pure scholar. I had a First from Cambridge and I was the first student to take the new archaeological Tripos. But I didn't really want to." Whatever she is saying, Jacquetta Hawkes sounds modest; her manner is reticent, though friendly; she looks down a lot of the time. She is a tall woman, in a neat tailored white suit, with a cameo brooch at the neck of her silk shirt. She wishes there had been more poetry "of a really spine-chilling kind". The only other verse, written in the form of a long poem to CND women during the days when she and J.B. Priestley went on the Aldermaston marches was "terrible". Jacquetta Hawkes talks of the 25 years with Priestley at Kissing Tree House and the seven years before on the Isle of Wight, with obvious pleasure. There was some surprise at her liaison with Priestley, since they seemed so different: she, very tall and fair, daughter of the Nobel Prize-winning biochemist, Sir Frederick Hopkins, and in her thirties; he is his fifties, with a face he once endearingly described as like a "glowering pudding". Clearly, it was a happy life. They travelled a great deal, mainly to the American south-west. Journey Down a Rainbow is an exchange of letters and essays between New Mexico, where she stayed with an Indian tribe, and Texas, where he visited millionaires. "I had the better time, but he had more jokes." She celebrated something of this happiness in a surprisingly personal novel, A Quest of Love, published in 1980, in which she wrote: "I find in myself a strong desire to utter the thankfulness I feel for a relationship which, late though it was forged, is richer and more whole than any that went before." Jacquetta Hawkes has always been a walker, she means to go on walking now, though arthritis in one hip is beginning to make the steps a bit uneven. She is 76 this year. And her plans? No more archaeology for the moment, but a book on old age. "I want to try to write something objective, record the patterns of decline as they happen. Perhaps it may even be optimistic, who knows?" Caroline Moorehead The Shell Guide to British Archaeology by Jacquetta Hawkes with photographs by Jorge Lewinsky (Michael Joseph, £14.95) is published on Monday

ARTS DIARY

Picture stricture

The National Portrait Gallery has taken the peculiar step of acquiring five photographic portraits taken by the actress Koo Stark. Miss Stark, who has published a book of her pictures, has sold four to the NPG for a nominal sum and has given the other one free. This turns out to be a portrait of Prince Andrew wearing a dashing beard, and dates from the days when Miss Stark enjoyed a notorious relationship with the Prince. Primly, the former soft-porn movie star has refused to allow the NPG to exploit the picture of Andrew beyond hanging it on the wall, and refused to accept a fee for it.

Tight clinch

One important piece of evidence should not be ignored by John Hartard and his committee: as they look into the delays at the Victoria and Albert Museum which left thousands of priceless artefacts under several feet of water, the dissiser took place in an area of the museum known as Clinch's Hole, where the ghost of Warder Clinch, a museum official who hanged himself in Victorian times, still walks. The malign influence of Clinch still makes itself felt, to more sensitive V & A staff, though others are laying the blame fairly and squarely at the door of the Property Services Agency, another Gothic body, whose responsibility was to keep the building in good shape.

The Queen Elizabeth Hall was more like a Who's Who of Westminster last night when Tony MP Sir Ian Gilmour's son, Oliver, conducted his first major concert. Amongst those who accepted invitations to hear the Gilmour interpretation of Beethoven's Third piano concerto with Tamas Vassary and the St John's Smith Square orchestra were Ted Heath, Roy Jenkins, Paul Channon and Sir Robin Day - not to mention the proud Sir Ian.

Pooh corner

The tormented relationship between A. A. Milne and his son Christopher Robin is finally to be exposed by Ann Thwaite, the recipient this week of the Duff Cooper prize for her superb life of Edmund Gosse. Milne always hated the fact he would be remembered for his "four trifles for the young", and actually published between 40 and 50 books. But despite being a



much-loved figure he was unable to form a proper relationship with his son, now a Dartmouth bookseller. "He wrote Winnie the Pooh as a substitute for paternal affection. It was terribly sad", says Mrs Thwaite.

Coward cool

Noel Coward was not the world's warmest human being. In a new fragment of autobiography to be published by Methuen next month, Coward talks of the death of his little-known younger brother Eric. The Master airily acknowledges it was difficult for any sibling to struggle out from under his shadow, and the boy was packed off to Ceylon to become a tea-planter. Aged 27, Eric contracted terminal cancer and came home to die. Yet Coward, who earlier reported his inability to contain his tears on learning of the death of the Duke of Kent, records his brother's demise without comment.

Advertisement for 'A Room with a View' film, featuring Maggie Smith, Denholm Elliott, Judi Dench, Simon Callow, Helena Bonham Carter, Julian Sands, Daniel Day-Lewis. Now showing at Curzon Mayfair, Curzon Street, London W1. Film at 1.30pm (not Sun), 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm. Seats at £4.50 (available in advance for £4.00 per seat only and 5.00 per seat on Sat and Sun).

Handwritten note: "It is a film"

Waldheim takes new line on Salonika

Continued from page 1 studied several books about the wartime fate of the Jews. "The new element that is important for me" was that he was out in Salonika during the deportations. "I was in Tirana (the capital of Albania) and an interpreter between the Italian and German forces. I was therefore not present during the main part of the deportations."

He laid great emphasis on the dates of his various movements during the period. The deportations took place between March and August 1943.

Dr Waldheim told *The Times* that after returning wounded from the Soviet Union he recuperated in the Vienna area until March 1942, when he was pronounced unfit for combat. But because he spoke Italian, he was sent to Yugoslavia as a liaison officer with the Italian forces. In May, June and July 1942, and later to Salonika. But from November 1942 until April 1943, because he was no longer eligible for combat, he was allowed back to Vienna to complete his civilian legal studies. He was then sent to Tirana.

"This was the period when Italy withdrew from the war and my task was to interpret during the handing over of Italian troop positions, and responsibilities, to the Germans."

Dr Waldheim agreed that, in the course of the same duties, he returned to Salonika later in 1943, but by that time the bulk of the deportations were over and he had no knowledge of them.

None of this will absolve him from the charge that he did, however, have knowledge of operations against Yugoslav partisans. He admits that intelligence work against partisans was one of his duties but that it was secondary to his task as interpreter.

On his general attitude to the Nazis, Dr Waldheim said that he and his brother distributed anti-Nazi leaflets shortly before the Anschluss of 1938, which joined Austria to Germany. "We were beaten up by SA thugs for it," he said.

Introducing the aspiring Class of '86



In a few weeks thousands of 16-year-olds will leave school. Others will look forward to two years in the sixth form. In a project to monitor their future, *The Times* has constructed a "Class of '86" from pupils at Bramhall High School in Cheshire. In the first report, Ian Smith discovers their hopes, fears and aspirations; over the next 12 months we shall follow their progress to see how reality measures up. "The rules here are simple," said one fifth-former at Bramhall High School. "You do well and everyone falls over themselves to lead you by the hand. Fall behind and they turn their backs on you as though you have let everyone down. It's survival of the fittest."

The 20 pupils facing an uncertain future

Back row (from left) Paul Barwell: YTS mechanical engineering course. Graham Easter: hoping for apprenticeship with Manchester City FC under YTS. Jackie Royle: sixth form, career undecided. Jon Mark Warburton: sixth form for 12 months only, then considering college to qualify as games teacher. Joanne Parker: sixth form, hoping for career in journalism. Stephen Jones: leaving for future with bank or building society. Middle row John Green: sixth form, possible career in computers. Tina Cullen: staying on in sixth form, then may join police or become physical education teacher. Adrian Bellis: hopes to join police. Claire Bentley: sixth form, then hoping to enrol in drama school. Adam Roberts: sixth form to pursue law career, community work or with conciliation service. Donna Combe: college course in nursing or catering. Neil Chandrasekhar: sixth form, then planning medical career. Front row Graham Flett: applying to five different colleges for hotel management. Amanda Blackwell: sixth form, hoping to become law executive. Ruth Lovelace: sixth form then possibly university, career undecided. Rebecca Hardy: leaving for job in bank. Robia Harrison: two-year YTS course as motor mechanic. Susan Clegg: hoping for college course in fashion or retail manufacturing. Roger Marlow: sixth form then university for computer studies. last two and a half hours. Stephen Jones, the baby of the group who is 16 in July, knows it is essential to get at least four O-level passes. Without them he will have to go to a further education college and fresh studies before he can pursue a career in banking or with a building society or estate agent. Stephen, studying seven subjects, has had three weeks' work experience with the Abbey National. He met the careers teacher with his father and was urged to pursue his

Head with mission to explain

Mr Alan Debes, (right) Bramhall High School's head-teacher, is a professed enthusiast about education. "I live and breathe the job and I tell the kids that the more educated you are, the more in charge of your life you are. I would sell education to anyone because I really believe in it."

Mr Debes, aged 46, is a public school-educated honours graduate who trained as a probation officer and believes himself to be a progressive educationalist and an eminently approachable school head. "Some head-teachers see their job as running a tight ship. I think my role is to get the red blood corpuscles running, to listen to people and to obtain a consensus about what is best. "We live in a professional catchment area and a lot of dads are managers of whatever business they are in. From day one, parents instill into their sons and daughters the importance of attaining academic excellence. They don't just say O-levels are important... they mean it. "This is bound to increase the pressure on the kids. Once upon a time we could tell the pupils that if they worked hard and obtained good examination results they would walk into a job of their choice. That is no longer true. We have kids with good O-level and A-level passes who are on the dole and likely to remain there for the foreseeable future."



ambition through a Youth Training Scheme, doing two years' work experience while qualifying for a day-release course to improve his academic record, in case there is no full-time job after the YTS. He realises that the only certain way of getting a job is to chase one. "No one else is going to do it for me. I've got to make my own way in the world."

He has written to four prospective employers and is encouraged that all four have replied - remarkable in an age when many youngsters pen 50 or 60 applications without the courtesy of a single response. Stephen's father Terence, a flight engineer with British Aerospace, has no illusions over what lies ahead. "Things are a lot harder than they were. When Stephen was 12, I thought like many other people that the unemployment situation would have improved by the time he left school. But it hasn't. If anything it's getting worse and I cannot see things changing by the time Stephen's 12-year-old brother has to find work. "At the moment I am optimistic about his future. There is no doubt the name of Bramhall High carries quite a bit of weight with employers and, without wishing to sound snobbish, so does our address."

Disabled Bill gains a smooth passage

Continued from page 1 filibustering or sustained objections to the Bill. No hint of a concession had been given by Mrs Thorneycroft during Question Time on Thursday when Mr Kinnoch claimed the Government's approach to the Bill was "cheap and nasty". Mr Clarke said: "Only yesterday the Government's position was one of intransigence. But there was a considerable change in the atmosphere after Mr Kinnoch's intervention during Question Time."

The Government had opposed a clause which would require hospitals to give 28 days' notice to social services before discharging patients who had been treated for mental disorders for more than 28 months. Mr Brian Rix, secretary general of Mencap, who worked on the Bill with Mr Clarke, said this would be a major step forward for the disabled. "Now a mentally handicapped person leaving school or coming out of hospital will have to have his or her needs assessed and local authorities will have to make a statement as to the means of fulfilling those needs."

Pig slaughter

Four hundred pigs were destroyed at a farm near Kintler, Shropshire, yesterday because of an outbreak of swine fever, the first in Britain for 15 years.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Solution to Puzzle No 17,017

Solution to Puzzle No 17,012

A prize of *The Times Atlas of World History* will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: *The Times Saturday Crossword Competition*, Box 436, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solutions will be published next Saturday.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,018

ACROSS
1 First of the common people, this woodcutter with a Finnish friend (3,6).
6 Test of vehicle condition - that's the big idea (5).
9 Drearly rabble in retreat - attack with artillery (7).
10 For nutrition take wine, swallowing it before noon (7).
11 Inclined to speak fast (5).
12 Mere versifiers like Southey (4).
13 Records by pre-eminent composer (8).
15 Some barmaids remove the froth (4).
19 Annoy a spy (4).
20 Wrongly accused university staff of messengers (8).
23 Theorist about the making of Capulet's enemy originally (4).
24 Shelter for black-bearded murderer (5).
26 This is said without restraint about the ring road (7).
27 One note recurring in Italian river poet (7).
28 Dickensian fellow is getting on (5).
29 Straght silk dress, low cut (8).

Today's events
Royal engagements
Prince Andrew opens the National Badminton Centre, Milton Keynes, 2.55.
Princess Margaret attends the St John Ambulance Association and Brigades Regional Presidents' Conference, Poachers House, Bamber Bridge, Preston, 12.30.
New Exhibitions
Drawings for sculpture by Emily Hoffman and lustreware by Janet Lewis; Bobun Gallery, 13 Station Rd, Healey-on-Thames; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, closed Wed (ends May 8).
Black and White Memories: Photographs by David Bailey; Aherdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 8, Sun 2 to 5 (ends May 4).
Music
Choral concert by the Gabrice Choir; St Augustine's, Kilburn, NW5, 7.30.
Concert by Eric Hill (guitar) and The John Horler Trio; October Gallery, 24 Old Gloucester St, WC1, 8.
Brass band concert by the Jaguar (City of Coventry) Band; St Mary Abbots, W8, 11.
Concert by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra; Guildhall, Southampton, 8.
Concert by the Scottish National Orchestra; City Hall, Glasgow, 7.30.
Concert by the Medici String Quartet; The Adrian Boult Hall, Birmingham School of Music, Paradise Place, 7.30.
Concert by the Swansea Philharmonic Choir; Brangwyn Hall, Swansea, 7.30.
Concert by the Chelmsford Singers; Waltham Abbey, 7.30.
Concert by the Endymion Ensemble; New College Chapel, Oxford, 8.
Concert by Musica Donum Dei; St Peter's, Nottingham, 7.30.
General
Chelsea Bookfair and Chelsea Cine Fair; Chelsea Old Town Hall, SW3, 10 to 6.
Highgate Horticultural Spring Show; Highgate Literary & Scientific Institution, 11 South Grove, N6, 2.
Felt Making Day; demonstrations by Freda Walker and Jenny Gowen; Abbot Hall Art Gallery, Kendal, Cumbria, 1.30 to 5.
Tomorrow
Last chance to see
A Noise in Your Eye; sound sculptures; Concourse Gallery, Barbican Centre, EC2, 12 to 8.
Mastership of photography from the Riddell Collection; Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Queen Street, Edinburgh, 2 to 5.
Music
Concert by the London Symphony Orchestra; Barbican Hall, EC2, 7.30.
Verdi's *Requiem* by the Wren Orchestra of London; Albert Hall, SW7, 7.30.
Concert by the Scottish National Orchestra; His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, 2.30.
Concert by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra; The Pavilion, Sandown, 3.
General
Chelsea Physic Garden opens for the summer today; Royal Hospital Rd (entrance in Swan Walk), SW3, Wed, Sun and Bank holidays 2 to 5 (until Oct 19).

Anniversaries
Today
Edward Bird, painter, was born at Wolverhampton, 1772.
Deaths: William Kent, architect, designer and landscape gardener; London, 1748; Charles Burney, organist and music historian; London, 1814; Franklin D Roosevelt, 32nd President of USA 1933-45, Warm Springs, Georgia, 1945.
Tomorrow
Deaths: Frederick North, 2nd Earl of Guilford, Prime Minister 1770-82; London, 1732; Thomas Jefferson, 3rd President of the USA 1801-09, Shadwell, Virginia, 1743; Richard Trevithick, engineer and pioneer of railway locomotives, Illogan, Cornwall, 1771.
Deaths: Charles Leslie, controversialist; Glasgow, Republic of Ireland, 1772; Hage Clapperton, explorer; Sokoto, Nigeria, 1827.

Roads
London and the South East A13: Barring. New construction to allow for construction of South Woodford relief road. Lane closure on 15 near Stone on Trere, southbound entry slip road closed at junction 15. Lane closures between junctions 1 and 3, Brenton, during daylight hours.
The Midlands M1: Two lane contraflow between junction 16 (Donington) and junction 15 (Owington). M6: Contraflow on southbound carriageway of the Catnash bypass. M5: Only one lane open northbound between junction 3 (Barnon Bridge) and junction 1 (Bury Green) and junction 3 (Lays Green), Glos and Wores.
Wales and West A82: Lane closures on northbound carriageway between junctions 1 and 3, Brenton, during daylight hours.
The North M6: Lane closures on both carriageways between junction 32 (Prescott) and junction 33 (Leicester Square). A1: Contraflow on southbound carriageway of the Catnash bypass. M5: Only one lane open northbound between junction 3 (Barnon Bridge) and junction 1 (Bury Green) and junction 3 (Lays Green), Glos and Wores.
A82: Single lane traffic (A82) four miles N of Swan Bridge. A82: Single lane traffic (A82) from 10pm to 11pm at Loch Lomond. Information supplied by AA.

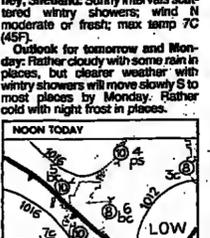
Gardens open
Today and Tomorrow
Highgate Horticultural Spring Show; Highgate Literary & Scientific Institution, 11 South Grove, N6, 2.
Felt Making Day; demonstrations by Freda Walker and Jenny Gowen; Abbot Hall Art Gallery, Kendal, Cumbria, 1.30 to 5.
Retiree: Forman Estate by Blithworth; woodlands and formal gardens now in an overgrown condition, but are to be restored by the Forman Trust; bus route suspended since the grounds were laid out between 1903 and 1913; 2 to 5.
Tomorrow and Monday
Gateshead; Wilmsley House, 11m N of Broadacre on A66; new Wilmsley village; built, flowering struts, catfaced a feature; 11 to 7.
The pound
Bank Buys Bank Sells
Australia \$ 2.18 2.04
Canada \$ 72.00 72.50
Denmark kr 13.65 12.85
France Fr 6.55 6.65
Germany DM 3.55 3.25
Hong Kong \$ 11.80 11.80
India Rupee 25.00 21.00
Japan Yen 274.00 260.00
Netherlands Gld 3.97 3.76
New Zealand \$ 11.10 10.85
Portugal Esc 234.00 218.00
South Africa Rd 4.50 3.50
Spain Ptas 200.00 210.00
Sweden Kr 11.18 10.84
Switzerland Fr 2.56 2.50
USA \$ 1.54 1.47
Yugoslavia Dnr 640.00 600.00
Retail Price Index: 381.1
London: The FT Index closed up 10 4 at 4111.8

In the garden
Gladioli can be planted now. Plant the corms, 6 inches deep in exposed gardens, over three fortnightly intervals for a succession of flowers over a long period. Seed potatoes can also be planted.
If the ground is workable, sow early peas such as 'Fettham First', broad beans, carrots, onions and turnips. Sow a packet of mixed lettuce - the varieties take different times to mature, so you can be cutting lettuces over a period of three to four weeks.
If we have a spell of warm weather, do not be tempted to buy tender plants like tomatoes, marigolds, petunias, geraniums for planting outdoors. They should not be planted out until the end of May in the South, or the first or second week of June in the North. Tomatoes may of course be planted in a heated greenhouse this month.
There is still time to lift and divide herbaceous plants - rudbeckias, helianthus, erigerons, veronicas and the rest. Michaelmas daisies can be divided frequently - every year if you can spare the time. Plant strong single pieces from the outside of the old clump at about 15 inches apart. RH

Portfolio
For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 24).

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	+3	+3	+4	+2	+2	
2	+6	+6	+3	+2	+1	
3	+5	+6	+2	+2	+5	
4	+2	+5	+2	+6	+3	
5	+2	+7	+2	+8	+1	
6	+2	+7	+2	+1	+5	
7	+5	+2	+4	+8	+1	
8	+3	+2	+2	+8	+3	
9	+2	+7	+2	+4	+5	
10	+1	+3	+4	+4	+4	
11	+5	+7	+3	+1	+2	
12	+6	+1	+3	+8	+1	
13	+5	+1	+2	+2	+2	
14	+10	+2	+5	+1	+2	
15	+7	+1	+2	+1	+7	
16	+5	+2	+3	+8	+5	
17	+8	+5	+4	+1	+2	
18	+10	+4	+2	+8	+4	
19	+8	+1	+4	+7	+8	
20	+10	+4	+1	+1	+8	
21	+10	+1	+2	+1	+4	
22	+6	+2	+3	+1	+2	
23	+7	+5	+1	+5	+2	
24	+2	+5	+2	+4	+2	
25	+8	+1	+2	+1	+4	
26	+6	+2	+3	+2	+3	
27	+3	+8	+1	+1	+2	
28	+5	+1	+1	+5	+4	
29	+2	+2	+3	+3	+2	
30	+3	+4	+1	+2	+3	
31	+6	+5	+5	+1	+7	
32	+6	+5	+5	+6	+3	
33	+5	+4	+5	+1	+3	
34	+5	+2	+1	+1	+3	
35	+7	+2	+7	+3	+2	
36	+5	+3	+2	+1	+1	
37	+3	+3	+2	+1	+2	
38	+2	+1	+1	+1	+2	
39	+5	+3	+6	+1	+5	
40	+2	+2	+2	+1	+4	

Weather forecast
A weak warm front over S England will move away S. A weak cold front will move slowly S across Scotland.
6 am to midnight
London, SE England, East Angles: A little rain or sleet in places, becoming drizzle in places, but becoming drier with bright or sunny intervals; wind NW moderate; max temp 9C (48F).
Central S, E, SW, NW, central W, NE England, Midlands, Channel Islands, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man: Little rain in places, but becoming drier with bright or sunny intervals; wind NW light or moderate; max temp 10C (50F).
Belfast, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, SW NW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Rather cloudy, rain or drizzle in places, some bright or sunny intervals; wind NW moderate; max temp 9C (48F).
Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny intervals scattered wintry showers; wind N moderate or fresh; max temp 7C (45F).
Outlook for tomorrow and Monday: Further cloud with some rain in places, but clearer weather with wintry showers will move slowly S to most places by Monday. Rather cold with night frost in places.



Lighting-up time
Today
London 8.22 pm to 8.40 am
Bristol 8.21 pm to 8.40 am
Edinburgh 8.45 pm to 8.41 am
Penzance 8.41 pm to 8.04 am
Tomorrow
London 8.23 pm to 8.38 am
Bristol 8.23 pm to 8.48 am
Edinburgh 8.56 pm to 8.42 am
Penzance 8.45 pm to 8.02 am

Yesterday
Temperatures at midday yesterday: C, F
cloud; L, h; r, m; s, sun
Belfast c 8.46
Birmingham c 8.37
Blackpool c 6.43
Bristol c 1.54
Cardiff c 5.41
Edinburgh c 7.45
Glasgow c 9.48

Terminal Four
Four of London Bus local bus services and its express AIRBUS routes, between the Airport and Central London, have been extended to serve Terminal Four at Heathrow Airport.
The Local services are routes 106 (Heathrow Airport to Shepherd's Bush), 140 (Heathrow Airport to Edgware Station), 202 (Heathrow Airport to Richmond), and 289 (Heathrow Airport to New Malden).
The AIRBUS routes will be reworked with the current three routes amalgamated into two.



High Tides

Location	AM	HT	PM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4.58	8.4	4.00	3.9	4.24	8.11
Aberdeen	10.22	12.5	10.25	10.2	10.22	10.22
Abermouth	2.10	5.1	2.30	5.1	2.30	5.1
Cardiff	10.12	11.5	10.20	11.2	10.12	11.2
Devonport	3.44	6.1	3.58	6.1	3.44	6.1
Falmouth	3.14	4.9	3.25	4.8	3.14	4.8
Glasgow	3.47	4.7	4.12	4.7	3.47	4.7
Harwich	3.26	6.3	3.43	6.3	3.26	6.3
Holyhead	11.14	11.1	11.22	11.1	11.14	11.1
Leith	3.26	6.3	3.43	6.3	3.26	6.3
London	4.58	8.4	4.00	3.9	4.24	8.11
Liverpool	12.22	12.8	12.46	12.2	12.22	12.2
Manchester	2.27	4.9	2.48	4.5	2.27	4.5
Millwall Haven	1.53	4.6	1.53	4.6	1.53	4.6
Newquay	3.15	6.4	3.24	6.4	3.15	6.4
Oban	8.43	3.6	8.46	3.6	8.43	3.6
Penzance	7.45	1.8	7.45	1.8	7.45	1.8
Portsmouth	3.52	1.9	3.57	1.8	3.52	1.8
Southampton	2.28	4.4	2.51	4.4	2.28	4.4
Swansea	1.58	5.8	1.58	5.8	1.58	5.8
White-on-Nice	2.45	4.0	2.45	4.0	2.45	4.0

Around Britain

Location	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
East Coast	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
South Coast	3.7	0.4	6	43	stret		
London	1.5	4	20	47	stret		
Central	1.5	5	41	cloudy			
South West	1.5	5	41	cloudy			
West Coast	1.5	5	41	cloudy			
North West	1.5	5	41	cloudy			
North East	1.5	5	41	cloudy			
Yorkshire	1.5	5	41	cloudy			
East of England	1.5	5	41	cloudy			
West of England	1.5	5	41	cloudy			
Wales	1.5	5	41	cloudy			
Scotland	1.5	5	41	cloudy			
North Ireland	1.5	5	41	cloudy			
South Ireland	1.5	5	41	cloudy			

Abroad

Location	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Amsterdam	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
Berlin	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
Brussels	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
Geneva	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
London	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
Paris	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
Rome	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
Stockholm	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
Vienna	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
Zurich	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		

Terminal Four

Location	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Amsterdam	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
Berlin	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
Brussels	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
Geneva	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
London	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
Paris	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
Rome	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
Stockholm	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
Vienna	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		
Zurich	1.3	0.2	5	41	fall		

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1411.9 (+10.4) FT-SE 100 1698.7 (+8.4) USM (Datastream) 118.35 (-0.66) THE POUND US Dollar 1.4810 (+0.018) W German mark 3.4063 (-0.0032) Trade-weighted 76.1 (+0.2)

Boost for sterling

The pound strengthened against the dollar yesterday as markets continued to anticipate a cut in the US discount rate within the next few days. Sterling rose by almost two cents to finish at \$1.4810 in London, but it weakened against the mark, dropping by over 1.5 pfennigs during the day to 3.3940, before recovering to close at 3.4064.

Duport jumps

Duport estimates its pretax profits at £5.3 million for the year to March 31, against £2.44 million last time. The final dividend is going up from 1p to 1.95p.

STC rumours

Shares in STC, the electronics company, rose from 144p to 158p yesterday as bid rumours circulated on the stock market. The suggested bidders were Siemens of West Germany and British Telecommunications, whose shares fell 10p to 258p.

Elders stake

Elders JXL holds 18.52 per cent of the 1.25 billion issued shares in Broken Hill Proprietary after Thursday's Aus\$1.70 billion (about £839 million) share raid. This is more than was originally thought.

DM deficit

West Germany ran up a DM1.77 billion (£526 million) capital account deficit in February, after a DM2.27 billion surplus in January, according to figures from the Bundesbank.

Rights issue

Low and Bonar is to raise £22.6 million through a one-for-four rights issue to help the group's continuing investment and acquisition programme. The issue is to be underwritten by Rnbert Fleming and Company.

Tilney target

Sale Tilney is to raise about £9.3 million through a two-for-seven rights issue of 4.29 million shares at 22.5p.

Bids cleared

The following proposed mergers are not to be referred to the acquisition by Pilkington Bros of LOF Glass Inc, the acquisition by Hawley Group of Cope Allman International and the subsequent acquisition by Henlys Group of Cope, and IMI's acquisition of Martonair International.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with columns for Stock Markets (New York, Dow Jones, Tokyo, Nikkei Dow, Hong Kong, Hang Seng, Amsterdam, Sydney, Frankfurt, Commerzbank, Brussels, General, Paris CAC, Zurich, S&A General) and Currencies (London, New York, Frankfurt, Zurich, S&A General).

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Table listing price changes for various stocks and interest rates.

Hanson wins £2.8bn fight for control of Imperial

By Alison Eadie Hanson Trust emerged last night as the victor in the long-running £2.8 billion takeover battle for Imperial Group.



Bid rivals: Sir Hector Laing (left) and Lord Hanson

Lord Hanson, chairman of Hanson Trust, said he was delighted. He added: "We want to get together with the board of Imperial as soon as possible. For the benefit of all staff and shareholders the Imperial board should quickly recommend our offer to end the uncertainty."

A disappointed Sir Hector Laing, chairman of UB, said an opportunity had been lost for shareholders and the British public to create a British food and tobacco company of sufficient size to compete with the American giants. He added that UB was perfectly capable of looking after itself in the British and American markets, but it needed Imperial's tobacco cash to push into new markets in the Third World.

ICI, he said: "Our horizons have shrunk industrially." The chairman of Imperial Group, Mr Geoffrey Kent, who had fought hard against the Hanson takeover, said: "We very much regret the offer from United Biscuits has failed and the opportunity to build a major new British consumer goods group has been missed."

or placed in the market. At yesterday's price of 363p for Imperial, up 19p, UB was showing a £49 million profit in its building.

Although it was not clear last night how many acceptances Hanson had won, it appeared that some large institutions had failed to cast a vote at all. The level of United Biscuits acceptances was lower than expected and indicated some institutions could not bring themselves to make a decision. Alternatively some small shareholders, confused by all the conflicting literature leading them to their doorsteps, may not have taken any action.

Hanson's extension does not include the all cash alternative, which at 293p was well below Imperial's share price and had been taken up by only a very small proportion of shareholders.

Hanson Trust, the acquisitive conglomerate, won its last major takeover in January when it bought SCM corporation in the United States for nearly \$1 billion (£700 million), after an even more bloody battle.

Growth in UK 'best in Europe'

From Bailey Morris Washington

Britain has outperformed its biggest European competitors since 1981, re-establishing itself as a strong world leader, the Chancellor, Mr. Nigel Lawson, said in a speech to the New York financial community.

US economics chief attacks Britain's 5% tax on ADRs

By Teresa Poole

Mr Walter Wriston, the chairman of President Reagan's Economic Policy Advisory Board, yesterday attacked the British Government over the proposed 5 per cent tax on American Depositary Receipts.

more competitive market in Britain. Speaking at a British Institute of Management/Nolan/Narison seminar on information technology and wealth creation, he said the reality of the global marketplace, tied together by an electronic infrastructure, would not go away.

The proposed 5 per cent duty on the creation of new ADRs has been criticized as protectionist by a number of major British companies including ICI, Hanson Trust, Glaxo, Cadbury Schweppes, and British Telecom.

Stock Conversion plans talks with Stockley

By Judith Huntley

Stock Conversion and Stockley, the property companies are due to meet early next week in an amicable atmosphere to discuss the offer tabled by Stock Conversion to its unwelcome 26.5 per cent shareholder.

Mortgage surge for societies

By Lawrence Lever

Strong demand for home loans is shown in the figures for last month from the Building Societies Association. The abolition of differentials and reductions in the mortgage interest rates meant that the societies' promised loans worth £2.8 billion - the second highest monthly figure on record.

Broadside by Guinness

Mr James Gulliver's Argyll supermarkets group was yesterday accused of breaching the Takeover Code and "puffing" its share price as the bitter, four-month old battle for control of Distillers entered its final week.

Docklands airport tipped to take off next autumn

By Claire Dobie and Judith Huntley

Work on a new airport in London's Docklands, just six miles from the City of London, is due to start within the next few days. The airport is expected to be operational next autumn.

The currency market looks for a victim

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Nigel Lawson's bullish remarks on interest rates in the United States have, at least temporarily, given foreign exchange markets something to go for. At the time of the EMS realignment last weekend, the dollar looked relatively strong. But with markets now expecting the US to lead the next phase of world interest rate reductions - with a cut in the discount rate now clearly imminent - the dollar is looking the weakest of the main currencies.

So far it is developing in two ways. The first, pioneered by National Home Loans Corporation which was launched six months ago, simply involves the purchase by NHL of the home loan portfolios of customers who include local authorities, banks and insurance companies eager to move a relatively illiquid investment off their balance sheets. NHL takes over the full risk and administration of the mortgages and sometimes repackages groups of loans to sell on to other investors.

This is an early and somewhat unsophisticated stage in the market's development, but this week a subsidiary of Salomon Brothers entered the field with a plan to bundle mortgages into securities and sell them worldwide. The new company, Mortgage Corporation, aims to lend and securitize around £500 million this year and considerably more than that next year.

The sudden appearance of a secondary market reflects the intense interest in UK mortgages shown by investors from as far afield as Canada and Japan as well as others closer to home. It gives them a way of building up sterling exposures in a secure and profitable market without the need for a retail presence in Britain. At the same time it gives those institutions who have found access to the primary home loan market a way of divesting some of their exposure to make way for more primary lending.

For ordinary borrowers an active secondary market almost certainly means an even greater abundance of funds to borrow, but there are inevitable problems. To reassure borrowers the new market will have to develop guarantees that the responsibility for, say, setting interest rates and foreclosing on people who do not repay will remain with an identifiable lender and not be sold along with the underlying asset. Although rising, the number of foreclosures is still tiny and no one wants to see a new breed of ruthless investor entering the market who is willing to foreclose at the drop of a hat.

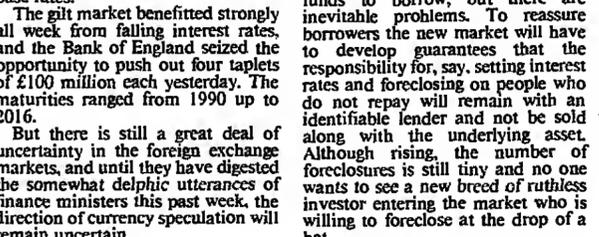
These fears were highlighted when Barclays canvassed the opinions of its borrowers on the sale of their mortgages and received an unequivocal thumbs down to the idea late last year.

The new market will also have to develop a system of rate fixing which borrows trust. One is the old discretionary method which leaves the decision to the judgement of the lender. But another which could find favour would be to link the mortgage rate to a percentage above the London Interbank Offered Rate.

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Below you see the results of £1000 invested in the Oppenheimer International Growth Trust placing it top out of all international unit trusts over all the periods shown.* Our style of international fund management is different. We buy the shares that we want wherever they may be, regardless of the established international capital weighting. Our performance has benefited from some aggressive positions, at times over 40% in one geographical area. The risks of such active management can be great but, as you can see, so can the rewards. To see how the Oppenheimer International Growth Trust is presently invested call 01-236 3885.

*Source: Planned Savings, Offer to Bid, Income Reinvested 1, 3, 8%.

Oppenheimer International Growth Trust

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TEMPUS

Crumbs of comfort for Imperial losers

The denouement of the long drawn out battle for Imperial Group, which gives victory to Hanson Trust, has interesting implications for the share price performance of both companies.

United Biscuits shares closed 3p up on the day at 267p and Hanson's also rose, 4p to 184p.

Had the result been the other way both share prices could have been expected to fall - Hanson's because it was discounting victory and anticipating quick financial rewards to be won from Imperial, United Biscuits because a smaller company would have been taking over a larger one, allowing a small degree of initial dilution.

Hanson Trust's shares, although they have risen in the last few weeks, have been through a prolonged period of underperformance.

At 184p they are trading on a historic p/e ratio of 13 and a prospective p/e of 11 fully diluted, assuming pretax profits this year of £350 million.

The rating is not demanding for a company with Hanson's record and yesterday's share movement can be expected to accelerate. Hanson has always had a reputation for extracting quick benefits from its acquisitions.

With the Americans already rereading Hanson on optimism after the SCM purchase - which is generally seen as a good buy - the addition of Imps will take the process further.

Whatever the questions raised during this bid about organic growth and the treadmill of growth by larger and larger acquisitions, Hanson's future looks secure for at least the next three years.

United Biscuits at least has the consolation prize of making a handsome £49 million profit on its 14.9 per cent stake in Imperial, more than enough to pay the costs of the battle, which should come under £20 million.

Imperial shares closed up 19p at 363p last night. Now that United Biscuits'

grand plan has failed, bid speculation may well re-emerge.

Duport

Duport was one of several engineering stocks in demand on the stock market yesterday. Its recovery from the recession had been widely appreciated but it announced that Midland Bank had converted its holding of preference shares, taken up five years ago in exchange for debt, into ordinary shares.

About 10 million shares, representing 18 per cent of the enlarged capital, were placed at 95p. In the market the share price rose 2p to 106p.

Duport also announced increased profits of £5.3 million before tax for the year to January 31, against £2.44 million last year. Of the £2.9 million increase loss elimination accounted for £1.6 million.

The rest of the improvement reflects the good performance of the two plastics businesses, Swish curtain rails and Bridgtown foam mouldings.

Vi-Spring, the bed company, also did well but there was a downturn in the castings and forging companies.

In addition there was good progress on the borrowings front, with gearing now below 14.5 per cent.

The shares were also supported by bid talk, which was rife in the sector, after F H Tomkins's bid on Thursday for Pegler-Hattersley. The rumour was that Williams Holdings, which failed in its bid to buy McKechnie Brothers, was now interested in Duport, whose plastics interests would undoubtedly be attractive.

There were also question marks over the interest of J Saville Gordon, another Midlands company, which opted to maintain its shareholding in Duport at 6 per cent by taking up shares in the placing. It all points to continuing activity in the sector.

United Scientific

Even in bull markets the rise in share prices is not indiscriminate. Not all stocks have been enjoying the boom.

United Scientific Holdings has been a dull performer - the share price stands at 145p compared with this year's high of 190p.

The long-awaited recovery in USH profits is unlikely to materialize in this financial year. The company's strategy is to build up long-term relationships with foreign governments, with increasing emphasis on non oil-producing countries. The acquisition of Soplem in France exemplifies this approach. The strategy is still very much in place.

To illustrate the difficult conditions under which the company labours it is not necessary to look any further than the still-to-be-signed Indonesian agreement. Potentially, this is a contract for about £250 million worth of armoured fighting vehicles for USH's Alvis subsidiary. A feature of the contract is that basic steel fabrication would take place in Indonesia while the high technology components would be shipped from Britain.

A joint venture contract like this works to the advantage of the purchasing government, by increasing employment opportunities for the local population, and to that of the equipment manufacturer, in cementing relationships with the purchaser. Unfortunately, many prospective purchasers of arms are the oil-producing nations which are feeling the pinch from the oil price slump. The requirement for these arms has not gone away, but contracts are being deferred.

Perhaps more serious is USH's difficulties with its American subsidiary. Lack of orders is not the problem. But the market has become extremely price competitive, and stemming losses which could cause the interim results to drop to near £3 million compared with £3.3 million last year is a priority. The company is tackling this. Meanwhile, analysts have downgraded their expectations for the year to September, 1986. Keith Hodgkinson, of L.Messel, the broker, is anticipating pretax profits for the year of £9 million, compared with £10.1 million.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Account finishes on a high note

The long hard fought battle between Hanson Trust and United Biscuits to gain control of Imps reached its climax when the Imps share price closed 16p higher at 356 as Hanson looked a likely winner.

Elsewhere cheaper money hopes and the current spate of mergers continued to keep share prices bubbling with the FT30 share index gaining 10.4 points to 1411.9 and the FTSE 100 share index up 3.8 at 1694.1 to end an eventful two week account.

Leading shares were largely neglected at the expense of many good features among second rate issues, stock shortage a factor behind many of the bigger rises which exceeded 30p in some cases.

Engineers remained excited by recent good results from the sector and the prospect of

continued merger speculation. Builders recorded many good features on the cheaper money trend.

Gilts rose another half a point on hopes that base rates would fall again after next Tuesday's OPEC meeting.

The Bank of England announced £400 million worth of new "tapets" after the official close.

Electricals were excited by rumours of a bid for STC from either Siemens or BTR. STC closed 40p higher at 158p.

British Telecom was also among the rumoured creditors but the company later denied the talk. But BT shares lost 10p to 258p upset by fears of increased competition when the Mercury system begins next month.

Plessey at 226p and Racal 204p improved around 8p

more but GEC was unchanged at 198p. Engineering issues to score sharp rises included Evered at 234p up 24p on Thursday's bumper results. Pegler Hattersley at 375p and F H Tomkins 319p added 15p and 6p on the bid situation.

Takeover rumours stimulated Stothert & Pitt 22p higher at 238p. Metal Clovers 159p up 15p and TI Group 16p to the good at 57p.

Recent good results prompted a 12p rise in Glynwed at 384p and Simon Engineering up 10p to 238p but Cookson lost another 12p to 50p on further consideration of Thursday's figures.

In builders, British Dredging lacked support at 84p while RMC with figures due soon gave up 6p to 65p.

Higgs and Hill at 391p reporting next Thursday advanced 23p to 391p while J Mowlem jumped 14p to 426p on last Thursday's statement. SGB Group slipped another 10p to 338p on fading takeover hopes.

Printals at 845p up 35p and William Baird 630p up 25p were others to benefit from recent good figures.

In food retailers ASDA-MFI climbed 8p to 154p after a favourable meeting of analysts.

Unilever also did well at 1640p up 60p while Alpine Soft Drinks hardened 25p to 24.5p after press comments.

Duport put on 1.5p to 106p on the debenture issue and profits forecast.

Doubled earnings lifted Reabrook 6p to 80p while Ellis & Everard jumped 17p to 229p on talk of a substantial acquisition.

Standard Fireworks fell 8p to 137p on the agreed merger with M Y Dart.

Good Relations returned from suspension at 140p, down 30p after the aborted merger talks with Valin Pollen 10p lower at 205p.

Newcomer Lee International made an unexpectedly bright debut at 187p a premium of 7p. Many dealers had expected a 10p to 15p discount after adverse comments in the press.

In thin trading, Barton Transport at 240p, Courtney Pope 371p and WPP Holdings 535p claimed 25p to 50p on bid and growth prospects.

COMPANY NEWS

● AYRSHIRE METAL PRODUCTS: Total dividend for 1985 2p (0.5p). Turnover £19.81 million (£15.56 million). Pretax profit £760,000 (£538,000). Earnings per share 9.7p (4.6p).

● EVERED HOLDINGS: Results for 1985. Dividend 2.25p (1.61, making 3.5p (2.3) for year). Figures in £ millions. Turnover 99.62 (163.35). Pretax profit 7.87 (3.44).

● PORTALS HOLDINGS: Results for 1985. Final dividend 14.5p (12), making 23p (18.5). Figures in £000. Group pretax profit £760,000 (£538,000).

● RONALD MARTIN GROUP: Final dividend 0.5p for 1985. Adjusted figures in £000. Pretax profit 904 (385). Earnings per share 7.4p (5.5).

● DARES ESTATES: No dividend for 1985. Figures in £000. Turnover 6,674 (20,221) including Dares Garages sold in December. Pretax profit 12 (loss 1,816).

● KALON GROUP: Special interim dividend in lieu of final 0.8p for 1985. Figures in £000. Pretax profit 2,794 (£2,899). Earnings per share 1.4p (1.3).

● GROSVENOR GROUP: Results for six months to December 31. Figures in £000. No interim dividend (2.25p). Pretax loss 187 (profit 449). Loss per share before extraordinary items 3.05p (earnings 4.64p). The board said that a decision on dividend should be deferred until results for the full year could be predicted more accurately.

● SENIOR ENGINEERING GROUP: Final dividend 0.87p, making 1.7p for 1985 (1.5). Figures in £000. Pretax profit 5,183 (2,871). Company said that the results would have been even better, but there were significant losses in one British

company and in America. The effects of the miners' strike were also felt in the light engineering division for most of the year.

● MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES: Results for 1985. Dividend 12.1p (11). Figures in £s. Net revenue before tax 399,056 (342,460). Corporation tax 157,177 (151,977). Earnings per share 49.98p (39.35). The value of properties is £12.7 million (£9.7 million).

● F & C PACIFIC INVESTMENT TRUST: Results for year to January 31. Final dividend 0.9p plus 1p special dividend, making 2.30p (3.75). Figures in £000. Total revenue 3,453 (4,707), net revenue before tax 2,276 (3,806). Earnings per share 7.61p (4.47).

● LARFONTEIN GOLD MINING: Results for quarter to March 31. Figures in rand000. Profit before tax 2,033 (3,067 quarter ended December 31).

● DEELKRAAL GOLD MINING: Quarter to March 31. Figures in rand000. Profit 24,500 (12,749) quarter to December 31.

● DOORNPOINTEIN GOLD MINING: Quarter to March 31. Figures in rand000. Profit before tax and state's share of profit 22,160 (28,916 quarter to December 31).

● VENTERSPOST GOLD MINING: Quarter to March 31. Figures in rand000. Profit before tax and state's share of profit 30,604 (34,756 quarter to December 31).

● FREDERICK COOPERS: Results for half year to January 31. No dividend (0.55p). Figures in £000. Pretax loss 647 (profit

225). Loss per share 7.97p (earnings 2.65p).

● C E HEATH: Company has acquired 20 per cent of Canada Case Employee Benefit Consultants. There has been a close working relationship between the companies since 1981.

● WILLIAMS HOLDINGS: Provision for payments totalling almost £200,000 for former directors of J and H B Jackson is shown in the annual report. The figure covers a £200,000 provision for payments to the former chairman of Jackson, Mr Philip White, who acts as a consultant to the company, and for loss-of-office compensation for "four or five other directors," a spokesman said yesterday.

● BACON CO OF IRELAND: Directors are in discussions with Hanley Meats Group and Castlebar Bacon with a view to establishing a commercial association.

● BROWN BOVERI KENT (HOLDINGS): The chairman, Mr E Bielinski, tells shareholders in the annual report that the group began 1986 with a good order book and that prospects to all divisions are encouraging.

● HOWDEN GROUP: Company has issued circular about the acquisition of Western Design Corporation and Press Devices. The total initial consideration is \$12.8 million (£8.7 million), which has been paid in cash. Additional amounts may become payable during the next five years, depending on profits of the companies acquired. Group profits in local currency terms

are showing a satisfactory increase over last year but because of the further strengthening of the pound on translation of results of overseas subsidiaries, pretax profits in sterling terms are running broadly in line with those for the year to April 30, 1985.

● RICHARDS (LEICESTER): Final dividend 2p, making 3p (nil) for 1985. Pretax profit £16,382 (loss £458864). Earnings per share 10.1p (loss 20.9p). Exceptional costs related to redundancy payments. After-tax profit for year represented a significant improvement on recent years. But difficulties caused a loss in the foundry division in the second half, and a consequent shortfall against expectations for this group.

● CATTLES (HOLDINGS): Shopcheck Financial Services, the company's financial services division, has acquired the Provincial Lending Co for £141,441 cash.

● FORD MOTOR CO: Three-for-two stock split in the form of a 50 per cent stock dividend. The quarterly cash dividend is increased by 18 per cent from 70c to 82.5c on the shares outstanding before the stock dividend distribution.

● NZI CORPORATION: Offer for Broadlands, through its wholly-owned subsidiary, NZI Finance Australia, has closed. NZI Finance received acceptances for 85.83 per cent of the shares subject to the offer and, with market purchases, is entitled to 97.25 per cent of shares subject to the offer. NZI Finance will compulsorily acquire outstanding Broadlands shares.

● TRIPLEVEST: Results for year to February 28. Final dividend 5.375p, making

11.066p (9.352). Net revenue before tax £3,924,945 (£3,540,007).

● WILLIAM BAIRD: Final dividend 11.715p (10.5), making 19.415p (17.5p) for year. Figures in £000. Profit before tax 14,551 (11,857). Earnings per ordinary share before extraordinary items 56.8p (47.5).

● OILFIELD INSPECTION SERVICES: Dividend 1p, making 2p (1) for 1985. Figures in £000. Pretax profit 911 (353). Earnings per share 7.1p (2.3).

● DOWDING & MILLS: Figures in £000. Profit before tax for half year to December 31, 2,008 (1,781). Earnings per share 1.96p (1.67).

● RUBEROID: Final dividend 6.5p, making 8.6p for 1985 (7.81). Figures in £000. Profit before tax 7,072 (6,596). Earnings per share 28.92p (24.70).

● MOORGATE GROUP: Dividend 1.4p. Figures in £000. Pretax profit for 1985, 440 (257). Earnings per share 5.4p (3.1p). Company has reached conditional agreement to acquire for about £1.65 million the capital of Money Marketing (Design).

● RAYBECK: No final dividend (0.5p) for year. Figures in £000. Profit before tax 57 (1,165 loss).

● LEC REFRIGERATION: Final dividend 8.5p, making 12.5p for 1985 (12.5). Figures in £000. Pretax profit 2,767 (3,353). Earnings per share 25.88p (36.41).



IT SEEMS THEY'RE TALKING OUR LANGUAGE.

There's one word that's common to most of Europe at the moment. Profits. Because with European markets rising 39%* on average last year, there's no mistaking the potential. And now, Save & Prosper (one of Britain's largest unit trust groups) believe the time is right to bring you a new interpretation of the European theme. Europe. With a higher safety factor. Here's why.

A FEW WORDS ON WHY YOU SHOULD INVEST.

All the signs in Europe are adding up to excellent long-term growth prospects.

- Underdeveloped stock markets that are now attracting more and more investors both domestic and foreign - and, despite last year's gains, are still cheap compared with other major markets.
- Improving economies with inflation and interest rates under control.
- Increasing productivity.
- And company profits on their way up - and now helped by lower oil prices.

There's every chance of excellent returns. But these stock markets are relatively small. (Even Germany, the largest economy in Europe, has a stock market only

one third the size of Britain.) And small markets can be volatile - which is why our experts are now recommending a new investment mix.

THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE.

Our new fund will invest primarily in the major markets of Continental Europe in high-yielding equities (mainly of larger companies), bonds and convertibles.

A mix that is different from most other European funds. Because it still aims for high growth. But also includes the high-yielding equities and fixed interest content for income - and, as importantly, for a degree of safety which we believe is sensible in these smaller markets.

And we ought to know. As the first unit trust group to launch a European fund 22 years ago, we've had plenty of experience in getting the best out of Europe.

FIXED PRICE OFFER UNTIL 2nd MAY (BELLE BIEN WUNDERBAR...)

You can invest in the new European Income & Growth Fund from £250 or from £20 a month - and until 2nd May we'll be holding the price of units to 50p.

Just complete the coupon or talk to your professional adviser.

You should remember that the price of units and income from them can go down as well as up.

But we believe with this new European investment mix, the signs are all good. In anyone's language.

Form for Save & Prosper Securities Ltd. Includes fields for Name, Address, Postcode, Existing Account No, and Date. Includes a section for 'I wish to invest' with options for £1000 initially, £100 subsequently, or £50 per unit. Includes a section for 'I enclose a cheque made payable to Save & Prosper Securities Limited I am over 18. I would like distributions of income to be reinvested in the purchase of further units.' Includes a section for 'DETAILS YOU NEED TO KNOW' with information on objectives, prices and yields, dealing in units, and net income distributions.

Advertisement for 'NEW LAUNCH EUROPEAN INCOME & GROWTH FUND' by 'SAVE & PROSPER'. Includes a logo for 'SOCIÉTÉ DE BANQUE SUISSE' and 'Société des Profits Record'. Includes a small chart showing a rising line graph. Includes contact information for the office in Edinburgh.

*Capital International European Index, adjusted for currency L.I.R. to 31.12.85

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your portfolio card check your daily share price movements. Add them to see your overall total. Check the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have a claim on a share of the total claim prize money...

Table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for PHILMAG AND ROADS, BREWERIES, BUILDING AND ROADS, and SHORTS (Under Five Years).

Table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for WEEKLY DIVIDEND and BRITISH FUNDS.

Table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS and OVER FIFTEEN YEARS.

Table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for UNDATED and INDEX-LINKED.

Table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for BANKS DISCOUNT HP and DRAPERY AND STORES.

Table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for CINEMAS AND TV, CHEMICALS, PLASTICS, and HOTELS AND CATERERS.

Table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for INDUSTRIALS A-D, FOODS, and FINANCE AND LAND.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Advance continues

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin April 1. Dealings ended yesterday. Contango day April 14. Settlement day, April 21. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for BREWERIES, BUILDING AND ROADS, and FINANCE AND LAND.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for E-K, FOODS, and FINANCE AND LAND.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for L-R, HOTELS AND CATERERS, and INDUSTRIALS A-D.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for DRAPERY AND STORES, CINEMAS AND TV, CHEMICALS, PLASTICS, and HOTELS AND CATERERS.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for INDUSTRIALS A-D, FOODS, and FINANCE AND LAND.

Table with columns: 1986 High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for L-R, HOTELS AND CATERERS, and INDUSTRIALS A-D.

Portfolio WEEKLY DIVIDEND £2,000 CLAIMS REQUIRED FOR +37 POINTS. WEEKLY DIVIDEND £20,000 CLAIMS REQUIRED FOR +181 POINTS. Claimants should ring 0254-53272.

OVERSEAS TRADERS table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield.

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTISING table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield.

PROPERTY table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield.

SHIPPING table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield.

SHOES AND LEATHER table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield.

TEXTILES table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield.

TOBACCO table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield.

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield.

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield.

OIL table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield.

Table with columns: Company, Price, Change, % Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for OIL and other market data.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'AS' and 'Asian Invest'.

FAMILY MONEY/1

Edited by Lorna Bourke

A sorry story for savers

INVESTMENT

The 300,000 policyholders of United Kingdom Provident Institution received a nasty shock when they woke up on Monday to find their company was in difficulties.

The £1,700 million Salisbury-based mutual company, now being rescued by Friends' Provident, is in trouble over the valuation of some of its investments, most notably around £50 million of unquoted shares and oil exploration stocks in the United States.

The immediate result will be a suspension of bonus payments on the with-profit life and pensions contracts, with no bonus being paid in 1986 and deferment until the end of 1987.

This effectively makes it impossible for the company to carry on, as no investment adviser will place any new business with it - hence the merger with Friends' Provident.

But what of existing policyholders? Given that these are all savings type contracts, what should they do?

Much will depend on how long policyholders have been paying premiums and how near to maturity the contracts are. But one thing is clear - it will pay to wait at least another week before making a decision as announcements are expected from Friends' Provident about the future of the UKPI contracts, some of which are expected to be discontinued anyway.

This means that no new money is invested in the UKPI contracts but policyholders will derive the benefits of the bonuses already attributed to the policies - and these cannot be taken away.

It is also worth bearing in mind that Friends' Provident may well make the UKPI life funds closed funds, which means they will take on no new business.

With the overheads of staff and marketing costs gone, these closed funds could perform very well for policyholders.

"Fortunately we didn't have too many policyholders in UKPI," says investment adviser Stephen Lansdown of Bristol-based Hargreaves Lansdown.

"Depending on what emerges in the next week or so we are going to have to decide what to advise our clients."

"The life funds are going to have the problem of shrinkage for some time to come, and I think for those policyholders who have taken out UKPI

His clients mostly bought policies many years ago and will therefore incur substantial costs in obtaining new life cover.

"But we have decided not to put any new business into the UKPI contracts," he says.

He believes that more recent policyholders should probably make the policies paid up, but cautions against a hasty decision, recommending policyholders to wait and see what emerges from the merger with Friends' Provident.

Friends' Provident has confirmed that it will initially keep the UKPI life funds separate from its own but a merger with Friends' Provident life funds is a possibility, provided it can be done without detriment to Friends' Provident policyholders.

However, this is something of a no-win situation for UKPI policyholders, since if the life fund cannot be merged with Friends' Provident life fund without detriment to the

more than the temporary suspension of bonuses," says Mr Greener.

He also believes there might be something to be said for carrying on with the contracts if the UKPI life funds are made closed funds. "Some of the old Caledonian funds which are closed funds are doing frightfully well," he points out.

But the question which all life company investors must now be asking is whether it could happen elsewhere if it could happen to such a highly respected mutual company as United Kingdom Provident. "Yes, I think it could," commented Stephen Lansdown. "I have been saying for some time now that bonus projections are unrealistically high."

Most life companies are projecting future bonuses forward at today's rates. Many experts have pointed out that today's bonus rates are historically high and with lower inflation it is not reasonable to suppose that investment returns will remain at today's high levels.

"I think there is an inherent danger in investment managers chasing today's high returns and it is quite possible that another company could get into similar difficulties," said Mr Greener.

Where does he recommend investors with new money to commit to place their cash?

"We are recommending Norwich Union, Scottish Widows, Scottish Equitable, Equitable Life and Clerical Medical & General, says Mr Greener."

Patrick McNamee takes a similar view: "I am sure there are other companies which could get into a similar situation. Many companies have spent a lot of money chasing new business - particularly on the unit-linked side."

And he points out that the pressure to keep up the investment performance is greater now than ever before. Fund managers, aware that their performance is being monitored, may well be tempted to take unwarranted risks.

He is going totally for unit-linked contracts where the investment performance can be seen in the quoted unit prices in the daily papers.

Lorna Bourke

You are not likely to get a good return on your money

policies relatively recently, they ought to consider making them paid up.

"I can't see that there will be much benefit to policyholders in staying. You are not likely to get much in the way of returns on your money."

However, he does point out that this advice does not apply for those who are holding policies due to mature within three to five years.

He says: "You might as well go on paying because you will lose life assurance premium relief if you discontinue and start with a new company, and the cost of getting the life cover in your fifties will outweigh the potential disadvantages of continuing to pay the premiums."

"If you go anywhere else it will cost you money."

He also points out that for many investors, the UKPI contract will not be their only policy, so the situation for some will not be quite so dire.

Pensions adviser Patrick McNamee of PM & A takes a cautious view. "I think most of my policyholders will just have to stick with it," he says.

Friends' Provident policyholders, then it does not say much for the investments in the UKPI fund and policyholders will not have much to look forward to.

John Greener of Richards Longstaff also counsels a "wait and see" approach.

He says: "We can't actually make a decision today. We are not advising people to do one thing or another until more details of the merger are known. In any case, it might not be possible to continue with some policies."

He is expecting the deposit administration pension contracts to be discontinued.

These are effectively fixed interest investments used by investors who have only a few years to go to retirement and therefore cannot afford to take chances in the equity market.

Richards Longstaff has quite a few long-standing with-profits policyholders, and because of the age of the policyholders and the loss of LAPR, will probably advise clients to continue paying the premiums.

"The LAPR will be worth

The first unit trust designed to tap the strength of the German economy.

Last year GT launched the first unit trust to invest exclusively in German equities. A unique opportunity to participate in the free world's third largest economy, the world's fourth largest stock market and one of the world's consistently strongest currencies.

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WHY IS THE TIME RIGHT FOR GERMAN INVESTMENT? GT believes that the long-term trend is still highly promising, and that Germany is an essential part of any portfolio. As a group, GT's policy has always been to take the longer view - to aim for consistent, solid growth over time, and as far as Germany is concerned, the time still seems right.

The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. But the GT Germany Fund, with its excellent track record, should offer investors the opportunity to profit from the continuing strength and stability of the German stock market.

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A contract note will be issued on receipt of your application and a certificate will normally be sent within six weeks.

An initial charge of 5.25% (equivalent to 5% of the offer price) is included in the price of units and an annual charge of 1% (plus VAT) of the value of the fund is allowed for in the quoted yield. Commission is paid to qualified intermediaries out of initial charge (Rates available on request). The offer price of units at 9.31.86 was 94.9p.

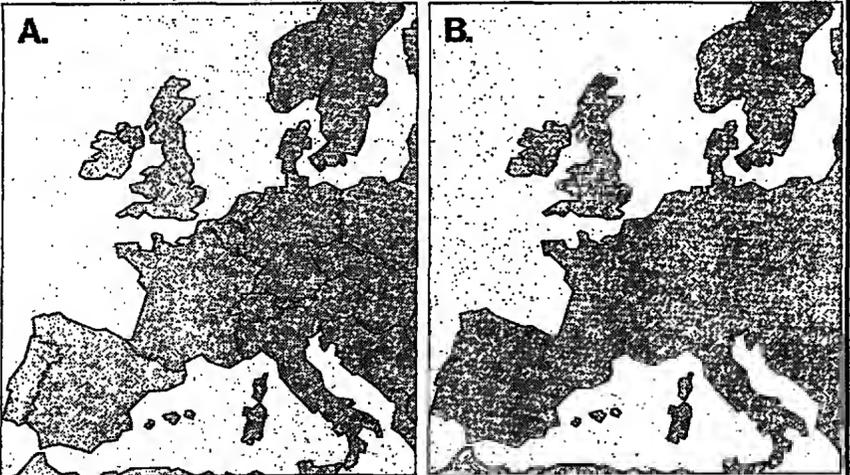
Estimated gross current yield is 11%. Managers reports on the fund will be issued on 2nd May and 21st November each year. Income will be distributed annually net of basic rate tax on 21st November.

Units can be sold back at any time at the bid price ruling on receipt of your order, and payment will normally be made on 7 days on receipt of your reasoned certificate. Prices and yields are quoted daily in the national press.

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£10,000 or more	8.55%	12.04%
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*Equivalent yield for basic rate taxpayers.
†The rate may vary

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Interest to be added annually to the account.

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Meanwhile, my investment is to start earning interest upon receipt.

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ADDRESS _____
POST CODE _____
SIGNATURE/S _____
DATE _____ T15

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Now it pays to shop around

SAVINGS

Cuts in bank base and home loan rates are good news for borrowers — overdrafts now cost 14 to 16 per cent and home loan rates are down to 11.75 to 12 per cent.

But it is not so good for savers. However, it is still possible to get 9.8 per cent net of basic rate tax from your building society account — if you shop around. The table shows which societies are offering the best rates. The Blackheath is paying the top rate of 9.8 per cent but requires you to invest £10,000.

However, investors with smaller sums can still get a handsome return. Guardian, Aid to Thrift, Mornington, Essex Equitable, and Market Harborough have no minimum investment and are paying 9 per cent or more.

Even if you do not want to deal with your investments by post, the Cheltenham & Gloucester, with branches all over Britain is paying a generous 8.75 per cent on its Premier Income account for as little as £1,000.

For the basic rate taxpayer the building societies offer the best after-tax return. But with the prospect of further cuts in base rates, investors — and particularly those paying higher rate tax — should be looking at locking their money into something like National Savings certificates, now paying 7.85 per cent tax-free.

The return is not quite so attractive for the basic rate taxpayer as the 9 or so you can get on a building society account but it has the merit of being a fixed return — useful in the face of falling interest rates.

A 40 per cent taxpayer, for example, will have a further tax liability on a building society account paying on average around 8.5 per cent which brings the after-tax return down to 7.1 per cent — less than the return from savings certificates and quite likely to come down still further if there is another cut in bank base rates.

If you are a higher rate taxpayer and have not got

your full quota of £5,000 worth of 31st issue, don't delay. There is every chance that another reduction in interest rates will precipitate the withdrawal of the current issue.

Similarly, it is worth signing up for yearly plan if you pay higher rate tax. The return is 8.19 per cent tax-free and the maximum investment is £200 a month. It is a one-year regular savings scheme which converts into a four-year savings certificate. Here too the rate is fixed at the level at which you sign up — but it could be reduced for future investors, so don't miss the opportunity.

Finally, for the non-taxpayer, the National Savings Bank investment account remains the only onshore investment allowed to pay interest without deduction of tax and is therefore the only suitable investment vehicle. It is paying 11.5 per cent.



LB

BUILDING SOCIETY BEST BUYS

LITTLE NOTICE, LARGE AMOUNTS, FEW RESTRICTIONS	Account	Type	Net rate %	True rate %	Minimum invest-ment £	Other conditions
Blackheath	Extra Int Shares	M	9.80	10.13	10,000	A A
Blackheath	Extra Int Shares	M	9.80	10.04	10,000	F L A
Blackheath	Premier Shares	Q	9.65	10.00	5,000	A
Blackheath	Extra Int Shares	M	9.65	9.67	5,000	A
Blackheath	Extra Int Shares	M	9.55	9.78	5,000	A I
Blackheath	Kent Shares	M	9.55	9.78	10,000	A I
Blackheath	Magnum Shares	M	9.50	9.73	10,000	A O
Blackheath	Clay Cross Benefit Share	M	9.50	9.73	20,000	A O
Mornington	Share	M	9.25	9.57	10,000	P I A Q
Mornington	Kent Shares	M	9.25	9.52	2,500	A
Mornington	Clay Cross Benefit Share	M	9.25	9.46	5,000	A
Mornington	Share	M	9.25	9.46	2,000	A
Paddington	7-Day Notice	M	9.50	9.73	100	C J
St Pancras	High Yield Shares	M	9.50	9.73	500	A
Blackheath	Extra Int Shares	M	9.25	9.58	250	A
Blackheath	Extra Int Shares	M	9.25	9.48	250	A
Aid To Thrift	Share	M	9.20	9.41	0	A N
Essex Equitable	Share	M	9.10	9.31	0	L L
Essex Equitable	Extra Shares	M	9.00	9.26	0	L L
Market Harborough	Time Shares	M	9.00	9.23	0	L L
Cheltenham & Gloucester	Premier Income	M	8.75	9.11	1,000	R S T
Cheltenham & Gloucester	Super Saver	M	8.75	9.11	1,000	T
Cheltenham & Gloucester	Super Shares 2	M	8.75	9.11	15,000	T
Cheltenham & Gloucester	Super Gold	M	8.75	9.11	15,000	T
City of London	Capital City Gold	M	8.80	8.90	2,500	
Frome Selwood	14-day notice	M	8.55	8.79	1,000	
Bolton	Extraordinary Share	M	8.50	8.68	2,000	
Harrow	7-day	M	8.50	8.68	500	
Tynemouth	Blue Chip	M	8.50	8.68	1,000	

Source: Building Society Choice — published by MoneyGuides, Riverside House, Farnham, Surrey IP30 0SF (tel: 04483 287). Yearly subscription £10.95, single monthly issue £2.50, weekly issue on application.

KEY TO OTHER CONDITIONS

Little notice, large amounts
A Old rates — new rates (and timing) not yet known
P True rate 1.00% lower from May 1
I Rate lower from May 1 — amount not yet known
L A month's notice if balance falls below figure in previous column
O Rate 0.90% lower from April 15
R Rate 0.75% net lower from April 15
Q Rate 1.00% net lower from April 15
R You cannot withdraw in first 6 months
S Minimum addition £1000
T Three months' notice if balance falls below figure in previous column

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Projected net yield p.a.	11.0%	10.26%	9.85%	9.35%

*The equivalent gross yield is 15.5% p.a.
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And, as the Observer also said, "... Vanguard, the unit trust arm of stockbrokers Capel-Cure Myers, is the Small Group of the Year. For the second year running. Its four trusts rose an average 36.7%, an excellent performance."

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FAMILY MONEY/3

Pay the price for peace of mind

Buying a house that turns out to be half falling down is everybody's nightmare. Piers Goldsmith takes a look at how to avoid the pitfalls.

PROPERTY

A simple mortgage valuation is made solely for the building society or bank lending the money and should not lull the buyer into a false sense of security, warns a new leaflet produced by the people who do the surveys.

Mortgage Valuations Explained points out that a valuation is not a survey and no legal responsibility to the borrower or any other person will be implied or accepted by the valuer or the lender.

Not so long ago the buyer would have paid for a valuation but would not have been shown a copy of the report by the building society.

If the advance is for 100 per cent of the purchase price of the house then the report will be telling the building society if the house is worth that much. But if the borrower only wants to raise say £20,000 on a £80,000 house then the report will only be investigating if there is £20,000 worth of security in the property.

If a buyer wants a better idea of the worth of a house he or she should opt for a house buyer's report or a full structural survey. If the survey shows any major defects the buyer can use this as a lever to negotiate a reduction in the price of the house if he is not deterred from buying it altogether.

A house buyer's report is halfway between a simple valuation and a full structural survey. The surveyor checks the wiring, plumbing and the



Confusion in buyer's market... go to professionals for best investment

basic structure of the house but he will not take up the floorboards or burrow into the roof cavity.

Paying for this extra service brings some come-back on the surveyor. But house buyers who have relied on the basic valuation and have bought a house in poor condition and subsequently tried to sue the surveyor have lost.

Bill Taylor of RICS says: "In Stevenson versus the Nationwide the buyer chose the cheapest option with all the exclusion clauses. He was offered a choice but he chose the cheapest and he got what he paid for, which was very little."

"I know people who spend more money inspecting a motor car than they would spend on a house even though it costs ten times as much. It is the biggest purchase most people make. They should take professional advice."

gives you less protection. But you will have a case against the surveyor if he misses anything which is supposed to be covered in the house buyer's report.

Anyone considering buying a large or old house which is likely to have a major defect or is far from standard should have a full structural survey.

Most major building societies now offer a standard cost of building society valuations and house buyer's reports

Purchase price valuation house buyer's report

Table with 3 columns: Purchase price, Valuation, and Report cost. Values range from £15,000 to £75,000.

The cost is subject to 15 per cent VAT and £2 administration charge. Source: Halifax Building Society

valuation or house buyer's report. But a full structural survey will tend to be a narrative report rather than a question and answer form - and the cost will have to be negotiated with the surveyor.

A basic valuation, which building societies are forced by law to undertake, will cost about £50 for a £40,000 house with a house buyer's report costing £125 and a full structural survey about £200-£300.

House buyers in the north are much more reluctant to have a full structural survey than those in the south (except in Manchester for some reason), but the intermediate house buyer's report introduced nearly five years ago now accounts for about 60 per cent of the Halifax's buyers with 30 per cent relying on the valuation report and 10 per cent taking a full survey.

A valuation would not mention a crack in a garage wall as this would not affect the value of the house although it might cost quite a bit to repair - and the house buyer might like to know about it. That would be covered by a house buyer's

report, but details about cracked bathroom tiles and rotten floorboards under fitted carpets would only be revealed by a full structural survey.

Joe Harley, a surveyor of Bristol, said young first-time buyers often took the attitude that if a valuation was good enough for the building society then it was good enough for them without realizing the limited function of the report. They also, he said, tend to forget that the money they are borrowing to buy the property is their money and the property is their responsibility.

The surveyors hope the leaflet will be given to buyers before they even fill out the mortgage application form. They must hope, naturally, that more buyers will use them to undertake surveys and they will avoid the wrangles which result when people believe they are getting more than they are.

International Investment Consultants Ltd

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BASE LENDING RATES

Table of base lending rates for various banks and institutions, including ABN, Adam & Company, BCCI, etc.

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A dark day: Ann Mallalieu lost her claim that her sombre barrister's outfit was tax-deductible

How clothes fit the bill

ALLOWANCES

The opportunity to enhance your wardrobe as a perk to your job is attractive, and it is surprising that more individuals do not take advantage of the income tax allowances.

The Inland Revenue has a number of allowances that have been agreed over the years, often negotiated with the unions. For example, building workers such as joiners and carpenters can claim £75 a year, stonemasons £55, and carders and overlookers in the textile industry £55. A lace maker is permitted £30 and a railway wagon repairer £70.

The highest allowance is £110 for seamen carpenters on passenger lines.

It is an extension of this principle that is now attracting higher rate taxpayers and companies looking to enhance remuneration packages without passing on all the tax liability to the employee.

There are two basic approaches adopted by the Revenue. For employees of a company, taxed under Schedule E, the Income and Corporation Taxes Act, section 189, states that if an employee is obliged to "expend money wholly, exclusively and necessarily in the performance of

the said duties, there may be deducted from the emoluments to be assessed the expenses so necessarily incurred and defrayed".

The addition of the term "necessity" makes it harder for employees to make claims than the self-employed and, of course, the rule applies to all expenses, not just expenditure on clothes.

For a fairly wide range of industries, the Revenue has agreed to accept what are termed "consolidated allowances". This is where staff are given a flat rate deduction from their tax liabilities to compensate them for the upkeep of their working clothes, as the examples given illustrate.

The Revenue will permit other cases to be settled on a personal basis by the individual where the article of clothing is distinctive, such as a badge or insignia affixed.

The more recent development has been where a company offers "finance" clothing for an employee, and then arranges to lease it to the member of staff.

For tax purposes, the Revenue says the liability is the difference between the sum paid for the suit and the higher of either the market value at the date of transfer or the market value of the asset when

first loaned as a benefit, less any sums paid by the employee during the leasing period which have been taxed.

For instance, if a suit at a purchase value of £100 is bought by the company and the staff member pays £20 a year over three years for the use of it, the employee pays £60 and is liable for tax at the end of the time (when the company simply gives over the suit) on £40. The tax inspector takes into account the higher of the two figures.

Naturally other benefits than clothing can be treated, but if it is an appreciating

Company pays for tailor-made suits

asset, such as a flat for the employee, there will be a liability for tax at the higher market value without any allowance permitted for tax paid previously on the benefit.

Self-employed, assessed under Schedule D, came under the legal eye, as clothing was the specific issue in the court case of Mallalieu v Drummond.

Ann Mallalieu, a barrister, claimed her black court clothes were purchased only to comply with tradition at the Bar. The Court of Appeal ruled in her favour in Decem-

ber 1982, but the judgment was overturned by the House of Lords in July 1983.

Lord Brightman said the Revenue was entitled to conclude that such clothes were professional and personal, but not exclusively the former.

If Miss Mallalieu had worn it, would have been open for every self-employed person to set clothing costs against income so long as he or she reserved the clothes strictly for work.

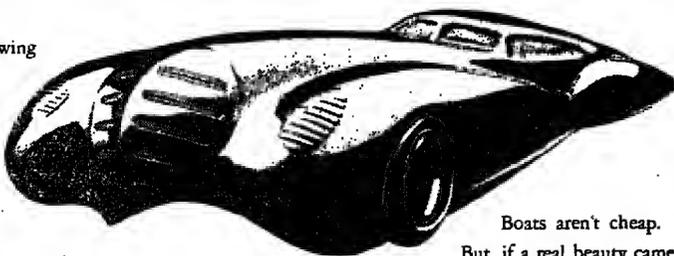
The Revenue says that for a claim to be allowed there must not be a question of purpose. Thus, it allows claims for the special clothing of professional cricketers, and, of course, clowns.

Several leading clothing retailers have schemes for companies to pay for employees' tailor-made clothes and for the company to finance the transaction. One London firm is Burlington with shops both at 9 Savile Row (trading as Anthony J. Hewitt) and at 213 City Road.

More would probably participate in such leasing arrangements if the schemes became better known and if companies had enough staff to justify the paperwork. Such benefits become taxable only when employees earn more than £8,500. CG

Personal Loans

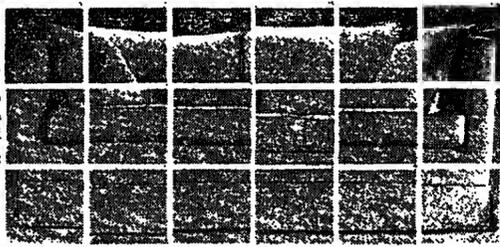
Imagine walking into a showroom knowing you could borrow up to £10,000 to spend on a car. With a Royal Bank of Scotland Car Loan you could be doing it tomorrow. New or second-hand, we can lend you up to 80% of the cost.



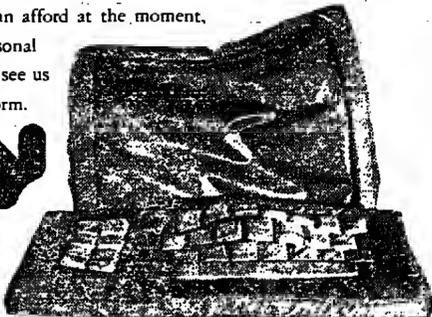
Boats aren't cheap. But, if a real beauty came along wouldn't it be handy to have the buying power right there and then? A Boat Loan lets you borrow up to £10,000, (you'll be asked to pay 10% of the cost yourself). So, what's the point in dreaming? This time next week you could be on the water.

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Odd how the sales seem to start when you can least afford them. But that's the time to find the real bargains. A Personal Loan means you can go to the sales with the power of cash behind you. So, just point to what you want and it's yours.



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The protection an investor can expect

Hardly a week passes these days without further developments in the structure of the self-regulatory regime which is supposed to be in place and running by January 1, next year.

This week confused followers of the comings and goings of the so-called self-regulatory organizations (SROs) have had to come to grips with yet another acronym - IBRO.

This stands for the Regulatory Organization for Investment Brokers, Managers and Dealers, and is born out of a union between two SROs, reducing the number of potential SROs to six. The two SROs merging are NASDIM, the National Association of Dealers and Investment Managers, and LUTIRO, the Life and Unit Trust Intermediaries Regulatory Organization.

Amid all the confusion of new and disappearing names, what is actually happening in the context of specific measures to protect investors against fraud and insolvency of investment businesses, authorized or otherwise?

Lawyers acting for the Securities and Investments Board are poring over the details of a compensation scheme which the board is setting up to protect investors who lose money as a result of the insolvency of a business authorized under the new regulatory framework.

The proposed scheme would provide compensation up to £30,000 per customer from a central fund which would be set up through levies from investment businesses whose customers qualify for compensation.

It has not yet been decided whether, within the £30,000 limit, claims would be met in full, or whether in fact claims would be met up to a percentage, say 90 per cent, with £30,000 as the maximum.

The idea is that only individual private investors will qualify for compensation. The fund will not, for instance, be used to compensate professional customers or other investment businesses.

The scheme will, subject to the exceptions mentioned below, apply to all investment businesses which seek the authorization required under the Financial Services Bill directly from the SIB.

It will also be open to any SRO which wants to participate in it. Should an SRO not want to join the SIB's scheme, it must have one of its own which provides protection of at least an equivalent standard to customers of its member firms.

It is worth noting that the protection given by the intended scheme is much better than that given to individuals in the case of the collapse of, say, a bank or building society, both of which events fall outside the scheme's scope.

Under the Banking Act 1979, the maximum compensation available where a bank or licensed deposit taker collapses is only £7,500. This applies to personal deposits, the precise rule being that you qualify for compensation of 75 per cent of deposits up to £10,000. If you had more than £10,000, you are confined nevertheless to 75 per cent of the £10,000 ceiling, in other words to £7,500.

Joint depositors are treated as having separate deposits corresponding to their individual beneficial interests in the relevant accounts.

Excluded from this compensation scheme are the FSB, National Savings and Channel Islands and Isle of Man banks.

The building societies, according to the Building Societies Bill, were going to provide a compensation scheme which would provide only the same level of compensation as the banks. Under present voluntary arrangements they currently provide a higher level - 90 per cent of deposits up to £10,000.

However, in the committee stage of the Bill there was staunch opposition to the proposed reduction in compensation levels, and the Government said it would be prepared to increase the cover under the investment protection scheme to 90 per cent on amounts of up to £10,000, for as long as the limits in the new legislation on societies' non-traditional lending activities remained in force.

Insurance companies will also fall outside the scope of the SIB compensation scheme as the Policyholders Protection Act 1975 comes into play here.

This applies only to private policyholders, with policies effected with UK-authorized insurance companies. Friendly society policies and Lloyd's syndicate policies are excluded.

If an insurer collapses, the Policyholders Protection Board will pay out in full on all proven claims arising out of the insurance of compulsory risks, such as motor

False claims are criminal offences

insurance against injuries to third parties.

With regard to other forms of insurance, non-compulsory insurance in effect, the board will pay out on 90 per cent of the claim. For example, if you are burgled, claim on your household policy and find the insurer is unable to meet its liabilities, the board will pay out 90 per cent of your proven claim. You will not, however, get a refund of any unused premiums.

In the case of long-term insurance such as a life insurance policy, the board, wherever possible, will secure continuity of benefits at 90 per cent or more of the value of the policy at the time of the winding-up of the insurer. If you have a policy which has not been running for long you will have to balance the likely low surrender value with getting only 90 per cent of the benefits.

So, the way things are going it appears that between them the SIB and the various outside schemes established under primary legislation will provide a measure of compensation for investors, but rarely a full indemnity.

There remains the problem of investors being duped by companies falsely claiming to be authorized. Such companies commit a criminal offence if they do this, and recent amendments to the Financial Services Bill give the SIB the power and, in fact the duty, to carry out investigations and prosecutions of such offences as falsely claiming to be an authorized vehicle.

Lawrence Lever

Bring in Europe to prosper

11

IMMEDIATE THE FIN...
GLAZIER...
A REAL...
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MINI...
400...
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Handwritten note: 12/11/86

FAMILY MONEY/5

Saving in Europe to Prosper

Not everyone can afford to totally forsake income in favour of capital growth... However, considerable savings may be made in terms of the relative tax treatment of profits vis-à-vis income.

Cost of crime. If you are wondering why your household contents insurance premiums are rocketing, look no further than the latest statistics from the Association of British Insurers.

Tax attack. The Chancellor opened a hornet's nest with the publication of his Green Paper on taxation reform.



members of households, or between one household and another in favour of married couples...

Confident Colonial

When equity markets are booming the one question on everyone's lips is: "What is going to end it?"

Foreign and Colonial is, however, far more confident about Japanese shares, recommending an average weighting in them or higher.

It's in the book

Where can I get a good book which will explain some of the complexities of money and investment? This is perhaps one of the commonest cries from Times readers.

available through bookshops or by mail order at £3.95 in the shops or £4.50 by post.

Opening up

The banks have started something with their Saturday opening — because the Greenwich Building Society is on to it and is opening on Saturday afternoons too.

Duty-free Darts

The announcement that Barclaycard's Darts project is to go live at Terminal Four conjures up images of an enterprising new scheme to keep airline passengers happy while waiting for their delayed flight.

Two at the top

Investment trust performance during the past four years has been dominated by two trusts. The latest statistics from the Association of Investment Trust Companies shows Lowland Investment Trust and F&C Eurotrust occupying the top two positions on a return-to-shareholder basis over one year, two, three and five years.

The AITC has revamped the presentation of its statistics on investment trusts, breaking them down into three sets.

The statistics are available from the AITC at £12 a year for each list or £30 for all three.

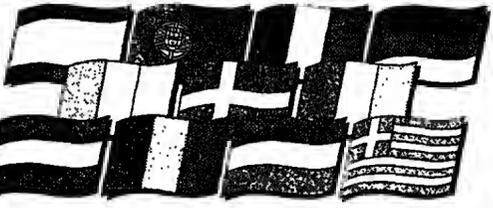
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How your pension funds fared

How well have the investment managers who run your company pension scheme done in the performance stakes? If they were good they would have managed to turn in a return of more than 36 per cent in the past year — the tail-enders, however, would have produced only a 2 per cent improvement.

The average return for all the pension funds monitored was 16.5 per cent — 7.3 per cent above the rise in national average earnings.

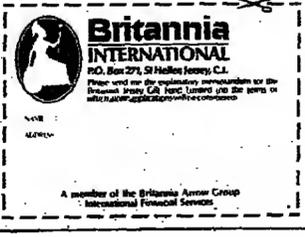
Investment managers got the overall market strategy right, they were not so hot on picking the right shares.

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Seven-year reprieve on lifetime gifts

● The Chancellor may have abolished inheritance tax on gifts you make during your lifetime, but before you go rushing off to dispose of your assets, don't forget capital gains tax. Gifts are

a "chargeable event" for CGT purposes — but there are ways round the problem, as accountant BRIAN FRIEDMAN explains

CAPITAL GAINS TAX

The abolition of capital transfer tax on lifetime gifts to individuals was one of the bolder reforms made by a Chancellor who has shown in his last three Budgets a healthy disregard for maintaining the status quo. What remains of capital transfer tax has now been renamed inheritance tax and is largely similar to the old estate duty abolished by the Labour Government in 1974.

Inheritance tax will now be chargeable at rates of up to 60 per cent on all gifts made on death or within seven years of death. Gifts made within three years of death will be taxable at the full death rates, whereas gifts made between four and seven years before death will be reduced by reference to a sliding scale of taper relief. Inheritance tax will also be chargeable on lifetime trans-

fers into trust (other than accumulation and maintenance trusts and trusts for the disabled), although in these cases the tax will be charged at one half the corresponding death rate.

As a result of these radical reforms estate planning has been turned on its head and tax specialists are eagerly waiting to see the small print of the proposed legislation when the Finance Bill is published later this month.

The Budget proposals have already all but killed the inheritance trust market which was previously a popular way of mitigating CTT liabilities. The popularity of such schemes relied on the ability to be able to transfer assets while still being able to enjoy an income from the assets.

Unfortunately for the insurance companies that marketed the schemes the new legislation will include a "reservation of benefits" clause which will mean that for inheritance

tax purposes a gift is not made until the reservation of benefits clause is lifted.

However, all is not lost for the insurance companies as there is likely to be a profitable market in seven-year term assurance as recipients of lifetime gifts seek to avoid financial loss should the donor die within seven years of making the gift.

The abolition of CTT on lifetime gifts to individuals may lead to a rush of outright gifts to children and grandchildren as wealthy individuals hurry to divest themselves of wealth before the next election and a possible reintroduction of tax on lifetime gifts.

However, human nature being what it is, many people will undoubtedly wish to hang on to their property for as long as possible and may end up paying more tax than would have been the case under the old CTT rules.

Estate planning has been turned on its head

Table 1 compares the rates of tax applicable to a top rate CTT payer (60 per cent) in respect of gifts made under the new inheritance tax rules and under the old CTT rules. Under CTT rules gifts made more than three years before death attracted tax at half the death rates, but under the new tapering relief provisions it will be five years before the previous CTT position can be bettered.

Care should also be taken not to confuse the abolition of CTT on lifetime gifts with the impact of capital gains tax which is chargeable on lifetime disposals but not on death.

Capital gains tax on gifts is calculated by reference to the market value at the date the

gift was made. Provided the recipient is a UK resident and both parties so elect, the gain can be held over. The recipient effectively stands in the shoes of the giver and inherits the giver's base cost for CGT purposes. This is different from a transfer on death where no CGT is payable and the recipient takes the probate valuation as his base cost.

Suppose, for example, Charles transfers to his son, William, an asset worth £15,000 but which originally cost him only £2,000. If the transfer is made during Charles' lifetime a capital gain (ignoring indexation) will arise of £13,000.

Charles can either pay the 30 per cent capital gains tax or jointly elect with his son that the gain is held over, in which case William will inherit Charles' base cost of £2,000.

If, on the other hand, the

Each case must be considered on its merits

transfer was made on Charles' death no CGT would arise and William would inherit the asset at its probate value of £15,000.

Effectively then there is a choice to be made. Either property can be passed as a lifetime gift, in which case CGT will be chargeable, or the property can be transferred on death, in which case inheritance tax will be chargeable.

Given that CGT is chargeable at a flat rate of 30 per cent and inheritance tax is charged at various rates (see Table 2) of up to 60 per cent, it will often be the case that the CGT

Table 1: The maximum rate of tax

Years between death & gift	Inher. tax %	CTT %
0-3	60	60
3-4	48	30
4-5	36	30
5-6	24	30
6-7	12	30
over 7	0	30

Table 2: Inheritance tax rates

Band	Inher. tax rate 66-67 %	Nil rate band
£0-0's		Nil
0-71		30
71-95		35
95-129		40
129-164		45
164-206		50
206-257		55
257-317		60
over 317		60

charge is the lesser of the two evils — particularly as it can be rolled over and deferred, more or less indefinitely in some instances.

This, however, will by no means always be the case and every case must be considered on its merits. In particular, certain assets may qualify for the 30 per cent business property relief from inheritance tax, which will effectively reduce the top rate of inheritance tax to the CGT rate of 30 per cent and in such cases lifetime transfers may not be best.

On the other hand, the indexation relief for capital gains tax may ensure that CGT is the lesser charge. In addition, as CGT will become payable only as and when the assets are eventually sold, the intentions of the recipient should not be overlooked.

The least favourable solution may arise where gifts are made shortly before death, in which case both CGT and inheritance tax may be payable unless the new legislation permits some form of set-off. In any event the problem remains that we never know when the grim reaper might call, which brings us back to the matter of seven-year term assurance.

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ABN	11.00%
Admiral & Company	11.00%
BCCI	11.50%
Citibank Savings	11.95%
Consolidated Crds	11.00%
Continental Trust	11.50%
Co-operative Bank	11.00%
C. Hoare & Co.	11.00%
Lloyds Bank	11.00%
Nat. Westminster	11.00%
Royal Bank of Scotland	11.00%
TSB	11.00%
Citibank NA	11.00%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

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Just in time

FAMILY MONEY 7

Two good reasons for watching the vintages

WINES

Two events — the devaluation of the French franc last week and France's second most important wine auction — have prompted added investment interest in the 1985 Bordeaux and Burgundy vintages.

Hardly any British newspaper carried news of the auction of Hospices de Nuits wines from northern Burgundy and therefore the information has not yet reached investors this side of the Channel. But prices rose 48.9 per cent for the 1985 vintage, which is of very good quality. The average price per piece was 25,958 FF compared with 17,437 FF for last year's sale. And the volume on offer was up from 164,16 hectolitres (each hectolitre is worth approximately 11 dozen bottles of wine) to 193,80hl.

Several UK trade buyers bought, including Admans of Southwold (which took Les St Georges, Cuvee des Seines de Vergy), Maison Cotswold of Cirencester, Bablake Wines of Coventry and Fells, a London-based wholesale shipper (with Les Didiers, Cuvee Fagon, Premier Cru).

John Harvey and Sons (Harvey House, Whitechurch Lane, Bristol, Avon BS14 0JZ) is making an offer of 1985 Burgundies at opening prices. Mr John Harvey himself, who is looking after orders, says "this is an exciting vintage for Burgundy and one of the best for many years."

To these prices one needs to add freight, duty and VAT — a total of about £11 per dozen bottles — when the wines are shipped in spring 1987.

Yet fine 1985 clarets are also in demand at opening prices. The "first growths" of Bordeaux are not expected to reveal their prices for another five to six weeks but already other estates have shown the high prices expected.

Some leading buyers, like Mr John Taylor, Master of Wine with Hatch, Mansfield, doubt whether the 1985 is so much better than the 1983s, but Mr Freddy Price of Green's likes the style and feels the 1985s will be in real demand.

As examples, Harveys are quoting Beame 1985 from Charles Vienot at £64, Pommard 1985 from Leonce de Valleroy (an exclusive to the firm) and two splendid white Burgundies: Chassagne



Just a taste...but the French wines offer more

Montrachet from Charles Vienot at £124 and Puligny Montrachet at £139 from the same House. These look particularly attractive in view of the US demand for top white wines.

Conal Gregory

Banks
Current account — no interest paid.
Deposit accounts — seven days notice required for withdrawal:
Barclays 5.25 per cent, Lloyds 6.25 per cent, Midland 5.25 per cent, NatWest 5.25 per cent, National Girobank 6.25 per cent. Fixed term deposits: £10,000 to £24,999: 1 month 7.50 per cent, 3 months 7.00 per cent, 6 months 6.825 per cent (National Westminster); 1 month 7.00 per cent, 3 months 6.541 per cent (Midland). Other banks may differ.

MONEY FUNDS

Fund	Value	Telephone
Adrian House	8.25 8.54	01 286 8070
Barclays Higher Rate	7.51 7.77	01 286 8080
Barclays Higher Rate	7.75 7.98	01 286 8087
£10,000 & over	8.00 8.24	01 286 8087
Over 100 calls	7.84 8.15	01 286 8777
Chiltern	7.95 8.25	01 340 1222
Money Plus Plus	8.50 8.65	01 286 2881
Headmaster Money		
Headmaster	7.51 7.77	01 286 8757
Headmaster Plus	7.50 7.74	01 286 8757
Headmaster Plus	7.85 8.14	01 286 8757
Headmaster Plus	7.50 7.71	0742 22888
Headmaster Plus	7.75 7.98	0742 22888
Headmaster Plus	8.00 8.24	01 728 1000
Headmaster Plus	8.25 8.50	01 728 1000
Headmaster Plus	7.78 8.00	01 286 8382
Headmaster Plus	7.85 8.05	01 286 8382
Headmaster Plus	7.85 7.94	0789 88886
Headmaster Plus	7.25 7.54	0705 82773
Headmaster Plus	7.25 7.54	0705 82773
Headmaster Plus	6.07 6.27	01 286 8882
Headmaster Plus	8.50 8.55	01 286 8882
Headmaster Plus	7.80 8.05	0272 73241
Headmaster Plus	7.87 8.11	0272 73241
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INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

withdrawal, maximum investment £50,000.

National Savings Income Bond Minimum investment £2,000, maximum £50,000. Interest 12.00 per cent variable at six weeks notice paid monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment of 3 months notice. Penalties in first year.

National Savings Income Bond Start rate monthly income for first year 6 per cent, increased at end of each year to match increase in prices as measured by Retail Price Index. Cash value remains the same. Income taxable, payed gross. Three months notice of withdrawal. Minimum investment of £5,000 in multiples of £1,000. Maximum £50,000.

National Savings 3rd Index-Linked Certificate — £5,000 excluding holdings of other issues. Return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail price index. Supplement of 2.5 per cent in the first year, 2.75 per cent in the second, 3.25 per cent in the third, 4 per cent in the fourth, and 5.25 per cent in the fifth. Value of Retirement Issue Certificate purchased in March 1981, £151.30, including bonus and supplement February RPI 381.1. (The new RPI figure is not announced until the third week of the following month.)

National Savings Certificate 31st issue. Return totally free of income and capital gains tax, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five-year term of 7.25 per cent, maximum investment £5,000.

National Savings Yearly Plan A one year regular savings plan converting into 4-year savings certificates. Minimum £20 a month, maximum £200. Rate over five years 8.19 per cent, tax free.

National Savings Deposit Bond Minimum investment £100, maxi-

imum £50,000. Interest 12 per cent variable at six weeks notice credited annually without deduction of tax. Half interest only paid on bonds repaid during first year.

Local Authority Yearling Bonds 12 months fixed rate investments interest 9 1/4 per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayer), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Guaranteed Income Bonds Return paid net of basic rate tax; higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity, 1 yr New Direction Finance — 7.7% 2 yrs Gen. Portfolio — 7.6%, 3&4 yrs Premium Life — 8%, 5 yrs New Direction Finance — 7.9%.

Local authority term bill bonds Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted net (basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed) by Working 7.75%, min invest. £500 — 2 yrs Knowlesley 7.5%, min invest. £1,000 — 4 yrs Knowlesley 7.5%, min invest. £500 — 8&9 yrs Grimby 8%, 8&9 yrs Taff Ely 7.1%, 10 yrs Taff Ely 6.91%, min invest. £1,000.

Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy, Loans Bureau (838 6361 between 10 am and 2.30pm) see also prelat no 24808.

Building Societies Ordinary share accounts — 6.00 per cent. Extra interest accounts usually pay 1-2 per cent over ordinary share rate. Rates quoted above are those most commonly offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax. Not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

Foreign currency deposits Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court International Reserves (481 26741). Seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

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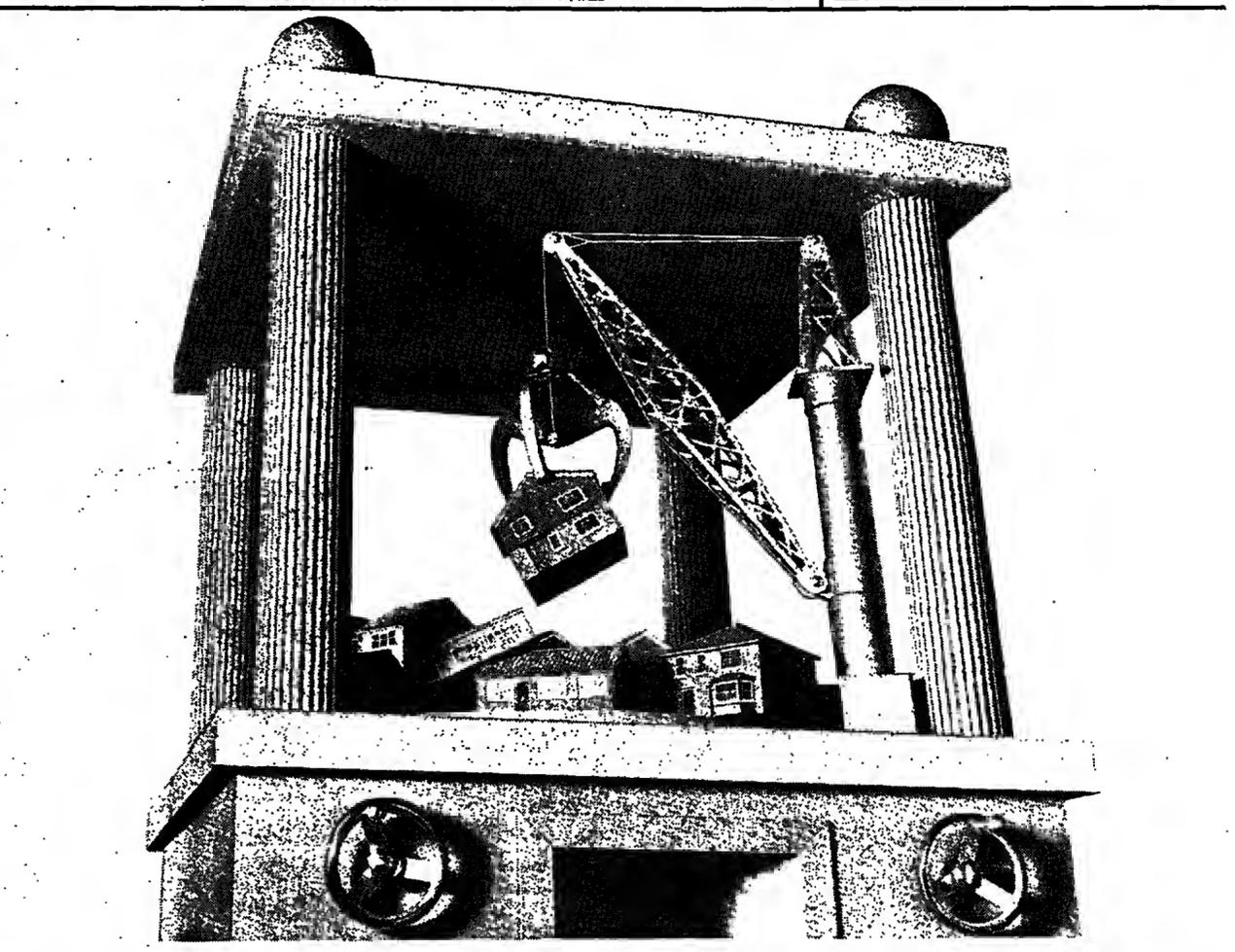
We have presented his findings in the form of a fact sheet.

To receive your free copy, simply complete and return the coupon below. If you have a professional adviser and wish to invest in the Target Japan Fund, we suggest you contact him without delay.

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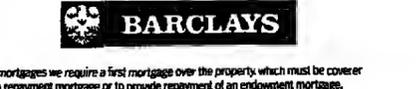
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Time is money so pay someone else to do your chores

ENTERPRISE

If time is money are you using yours efficiently? Or do you waste time — and therefore money — on household chores that could be done by someone else? Many women do.

Marjorie Shaevitz, author of *The Superwomen Syndrome*, observes that even highly paid working women are often reluctant to spend money on household services traditionally performed by women. "They reject hiring outside help with a passion that outweighs reasonable explanation."

Yet, she asks, why is it all right to hire a plumber to fix the loo if a husband can't or won't, but not all right to hire someone to clean it if the wife can't or won't?

Certainly there seems little sense in making a martyr of yourself if you could use the time normally spent on housework earning more than it

would cost you to pay for a cleaner.

Sue Partridge from Barnet works part-time from home teaching English to foreigners.

She charges £8 an hour. She employs a cleaning lady to come in once a week for four hours and pays her £10, plus 60p for fares.

A growing number of small businesses that offer a cleaning service

She says: "In that time the whole house gets done, certainly as well as I would do it."

But instead of doing four hours housework, I can do

four hours teaching. Not only am I in pocket, but I am spending the time doing some-

thing I like, rather than something I loathe."

Employing a daily — or a once-a-weekly — is the traditional way of paying for household help. But there are a growing number of small businesses which offer the kind of service that would suit the woman who can cope with the day-to-day chores, but has neither the time nor the inclination to tackle major ones, like spring cleaning.

Call on The Clean Team, for instance, and a team of three women, clad in red tracksuits, will turn up in their own van armed with all the necessary cleaning materials and equipment. Not only will they sweep, vacuum, dust, clean loos and bathrooms, and wash your floors, but they will also clean inside your cupboards, cooker and fridge.

The company, which is based in Belize Park, north London, charge £20 + VAT per hour and say that to spring clean a four-bedroom house usually takes about four hours.

Another company which offers a spring cleaning service is Feather Dusters, based in Wimbledon and operating in most of central London. They give individual estimates for each job but spring cleaning

Be flexible and think carefully about the sort of domestic help you need

prices start from about £150. They can also "spring clean" your garden and can supply a handyman to do odd jobs.

If you can find a local handyman who will work by the hour or the day, rather than by the job, he can work out far cheaper than calling out individual tradesmen to deal with a series of problems.



Jack of all trades: Mark Cline of Jobs Unlimited who will change your plings, put up shelves and price each job individually

Christine Parris, of Hadley Wood, Hertfordshire, pays her handyman £55 a day.

She says: "I save up lots of little jobs, then call him in. Last time he was here he painted the part of the landing that I couldn't reach without a very tall ladder, he fitted locks to all our windows, he fixed a leaking radiator, he put a light in the garage, he mended a broken door and a light fitting in the hallway."

"Even if my husband had been able to do all the work himself it would have taken far longer than a day, and calling in a plumber, a carpenter, a painter and an electrician would have been far more expensive."

One such handyman is Mark Cline who has set up Jobs Unlimited which operates in and around the Islington area of north London.

He says: "I do the kind of work that most builders consider too small — putting up

shelves or curtain rails, plumbing in a washing machine or adding an extra power point. I price each job individually, but I work on a basis of £7.50 an hour."

need a daily but it might be an idea to pay someone to do your ironing, or make your curtains. Kathy Wise, of Finchley, says: "I hate sewing and even making a pair of

pinched curtains cost me only £20 to have made up, and it was money well spent."

Gardening, too, is something people generally love or loathe. One person's relax-

agents and the like, but also keep private gardens looking sprick and span.

They will trim trees, prune roses, weed, dig flower beds, edge the lawns and cut the grass and clear away any garden rubbish for £6.50 an hour.

Of course, prices for all these services vary from area to area. But if you begrudge the hours you spend on domestic drudgery, and particularly if you could use those hours to do something more profitable or enjoyable, then perhaps it is time you did some sums. It could pay someone else to do your chores.

- The Clean Team: 586 0005
 - Feather Dusters: 942 0368
 - York Garden Centre: 346 6249
 - Jobs Unlimited: 359 3070
- Lee Rodwell



When considering the question of paying someone else to take over some of the domestic chores, be flexible. Marjorie Shaevitz says: "Many women are inhibited about buying help because they think too big."

curtains, which are relatively simple, takes me forever. So I pay someone to do it for me. "She charges by the width, not the length, so fully lined curtains cost from £3 to £5 a width, depending on the kind of tape used. A pair of double-width, fully lined permanently

ation is another's chore. This is an area where an increasing number of small firms are now offering "spring cleans" or more regular maintenance. The York Garden Centre, in Palmers Green, north London, for example, not only handles contracts for estate-

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Of the high street banks, Lloyds and Midland are cheaper than Barclays and National Westminster. Lloyds charges only 20p for writing a cheque when you are over-drawn — but you also get charged 20p when you pay money in, whereas Midland charges you 28p for writing cheques when you are over-drawn but nothing when you pay money into your account.

Co-op and the TSB don't come out too well in the comparison (put together by S&P), charging 36p and 35p respectively for writing cheques when you are over-drawn. Copies of the guide can be obtained from Save & Prosper, 1 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2QY (01-588 1717).

HIGHER INTEREST RATES

30 DAY SHARE
8-80% = 8-99% = 12-66%
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3 YEAR SHARE
9-20% = 9-41% = 13-25%

Portsmouth Building Society

Head Office: 176 London Road, North End, Portsmouth PO2 9JZ. Telephone: (0705) 093311.

PINECHURCH UNITED STATES GROWTH FUND LIMITED

(Incorporated in Bermuda as an Exempt Company)

The Board of the Fund announce the following unaudited results for the period ended 25th March, 1986.

	Period 1.10.85 to 25.3.86	Comparative Period 1.10.84 to 1.4.85
Gross Revenue for period covered	US\$181,886	US\$271,825
Net (Deficit) Revenue (after interest charged, withholding taxes and expenses but before payment of any dividends and deficit transfers to/rd from previous period)	US\$17,661	US\$29,585
Interim dividend declared per share	None	None
Special dividend declared per share	None	US\$0.011
Total amount absorbed by interest/special dividend	Nil	US\$36,916
Ex dividend date	-	25.3.85
Payable to Shareholders of record	-	25.3.85
Dividend Payment date	-	28.3.85
Net assets	US\$34,668,460	US\$29,236,350
Net asset value per US\$0.25 share	US\$11.81	US\$8.74

1st April, 1986

For and on behalf of the Board
KLEINWORT, BENSON (GUERNSEY) LIMITED
As Administrators of the Fund
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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society will be held at the Society's Offices, Surrey Street, Norwich on Tuesday 13th May 1986 at 11.45 a.m. for the transaction of the following business—

To receive and consider the Reports of the Directors and Auditors and the Accounts for 1985.

To elect Directors in the place of those retiring.

To appoint Auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.

Dated this 11th day of April 1986.

By order of the Board
D P LISTER
Secretary
Surrey Street
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NORWICH UNION INSURANCE

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We can show you how to save money: whether you are a parent or grandparent, whether you want to pay from capital or income, whether you are planning ahead or have left it late.

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FAMILY MONEY/9

Sean Geer, a recent graduate, gives a view from personal experience of how to live on a grant

Why a loan may be the last thing you need

STUDENTS

Much has been written of the difficulties of living on a student grant. Though life at college can involve financial problems, the situation is often made easier by the willingness of banks to lend what may be large sums of money.

This is often dangerous in the long run. Payment of a big overdraft once college days are over is a depressing and often impossible prospect.

All in all, it is sensible to try to keep within the limits imposed by the size of the grant. Many students would claim this is just not possible.

Yet it can be done, provided one is prepared to make a few sacrifices. Students are increasingly following examples set by the unemployed, where low income forces them to show remarkable resourcefulness when it comes to living cheaply.

Of the items most important in keeping alive, rent is probably the most expensive. The only way to reduce costs on this front is to apply to the local council for a rent rebate. Unfortunately, students receiving a grant and paying less than £15.75 a week in rent do not qualify (in London £20.80), and even those paying more than this often get nothing.

Even so, it is well worth applying anyway, especially for those on a low grant. Every case is assessed individually during term time and you may well qualify for something. From 1987-88, however, housing benefit will be withdrawn if the proposals go through.

Vegetarianism is one of the



first refuge of impecunious students. It is a thoroughly practical way of saving money. Beans and pulses in their myriad forms are cheap and healthy and can be stored almost indefinitely. This makes them suitable for bulk-buying and hence more savings.

Vegetables as a whole, especially roots and the ubiquitous potato, are cheap and can provide a diet of enormous variety. The savings can be great - two friends have cut their food bill to about £5 a week between them without enduring a moment's hunger.

There are other inescapable expenditures. The most significant of these is electricity. Electricity bills have a nasty habit of turning up at the end of term. They can reach truly frightening proportions with-

out the user being aware of it. After years of living at home, it is inevitable that such things as electricity are taken for granted, but it is vital to appreciate how expensive it is.

The best way of reducing the cost is simply to avoid flats with electric fires, cookers or storage heaters. These all eat up money at an astonishing rate. Gas is a much cheaper (and warmer) alternative - you are much less likely to end up with a bill for £300-plus which you cannot pay.

It is also worth remembering that electricity boards are very good at tracking down non-payers and are always prepared to go to court, so moving out is not a solution!

There are many other elements of a student's life which are equally important but on which it is more difficult to

economize. Such things as bus fares are unavoidable without serious risk of falling foul of the law. But a visit to a student travel office will yield valuable information about season tickets.

Concert tickets, records and pub crawls are an important part of student life and the cost must be borne accordingly. Money can be saved in less obvious ways, however.

Text books, for example, are very expensive, especially scientific manuals, and although their purchase is universally recommended by lecturers it is often unnecessary. Library facilities at all universities and colleges are extensive, and several copies of recommended books can usually be found.

There will always be some that are worthwhile investments, particularly less specialized

ones that may cover the entire scope of a course. Nevertheless, it is very important to be fully acquainted with all the services of the library - it may save you pounds on books you may barely use.

On a less academic level, home-brewed beer and home-made wine are potentially great money-savers. Students are not generally noted for their teetotal virtues. Alcohol accounts in some cases for a large chunk of the grant. Home brewing is a very cheap way of guaranteeing that much needed drink after a hard evening's work.

With the advent of kits such as those sold by Boots, the process is incredibly quick and simple - a minimum of expertise has excellent results. Initial expenditure on the necessary equipment may be

less than £10. Although your living room may not have quite the atmosphere of the local pub, doing it yourself can keep the spirits up when the bank balance is shrieking.

Commonsense approaches such as these, can save a lot of money. There are plenty of less conventional ones which are generally a product of individual skill and ingenuity. The most secure way to supplement the grant is to get an evening or part-time job. This is not always possible, as every other impecunious student may be doing the same thing. So alternatives are sought keenly.

Busking is popular in many areas and, although frowned upon by the law, can bring in welcome extra pounds.

Pavement artists are always popular with the public and can make a killing in busy shopping precincts.

Obviously, none of these measures is going to allow spending sprees in clothes shops and restaurants. But it is certainly true that by adopting some of them in whole or in part, it is possible to save quite a lot of money. Compromise is the important thing.

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We believe that knowing what to leave alone is as important as knowing what to buy. For example, we took the fund out of technology stocks in 1984, and stayed out during 1985.

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We're wholly invested in the UK. We know that its economy is set for more real growth.

Possibilities in takeovers, recovery stocks, undervalued assets and in production innovation are great. So we see many buying opportunities in today's markets. In fact, we're bullish about the outlook for substantial growth.

Consult your professional adviser or invest directly by completing the form opposite.

We're applying our skills right now. It's a special opportunity for you.

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*Source: Unit Trust Management, April 1986. Offer to bid, net income reinvested, 12 months to 1st March 1986.

General Information: Since launch in January 1983, TR Special Opportunities Fund has risen by 60.5%... (text continues with fund details)

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Investor's name should appear on all cheques and applications. If you are under 18, your parent's name should appear on the application.

Distillers' Shareholders. The Argyll Offer is open until 3 p.m. on Wednesday April 16th.*

The Argyll Offer values Distillers' shares at 760p – 50p more than their current market value. If you want to know why you should accept the Argyll Offer, call James Gulliver by dialling 100 and asking for Freefone Argyll Offer.

If you have any difficulties filling in your Acceptance Form, call the Argyll Helpline on (031) 556 7761 or (031) 558 1252.

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*Argyll reserves the right to extend this offer until April 18.

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PERSONAL

RENTALS

ENTERTAINMENTS

Continued from page 16

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MOTOR RACING: SPAIN CARVES IMPRESSIVE TRACK OUT OF THE WILDERNESS

Mansell quick to sing the praises of new challenge

From John Blunsden, Jerez de la Frontera, Spain
Grand Prix racing's newest circuit, which has been created out of barren land in only six months, has been given a qualified welcome by drivers...

SPANISH GP JEREZ 74 laps of 2.82 miles Total: 193.68 miles (including parade lap)
CP TIME TABLE San Marino April 27 Monaco May 11 Belgian May 26 Canadian June 15 USA June 22 French July 6 British July 13 German July 27 Hungarian August 10 Italian September 7 Portuguese September 21 Mexican October 12 Australian October 26

so we may see a lot of queuing tomorrow afternoon. But FISA's circuit inspector, Derek Ongaro, sees this as a plus point. Both Mansell and Senna encountered certain problems during their domination of qualifying...

RUGBY LEAGUE

Waiting game for Halifax

By Keith Macklin
For the second successive week Halifax sit back tomorrow and hope that their struggling rivals for the championship...

McLean calls the title tune

The four contenders for the Scottish League championship line up against each other in fierce conflict on an afternoon which may well become the most momentous in the history of the premier division.

FOOTBALL

Old boys' final

The final of the Arthur Dunn Cup takes place at the Dulwich Hamlet ground at 3.0pm today. Old Brentwoods play Celtic...

BOXING

Chance for Marsh to prove he is ready

By Sri Kumar Sen
Terry Marsh, Britain's world-ranked light welterweight European champion, gets his chance this afternoon to prove that he is ready to challenge Patrizio Oliva...

When Marsh defends his title against another Italian, Francesco Prezioso, at the Paris Lido, Douglas, Isle of Man, he must dispel doubts about the left hand he broke when he stopped Alessandro Scapecchi...

SA rumour is denied

Bob Templeton and Brian Lochore, who will manage the overseas teams in next week's International Board County games at Cardiff and Twickenham, arrived in London yesterday and denied any knowledge of Australian involvement in an international invitation party to South Africa in May (David Hands writes).

RUGBY UNION

Fighting spirit has led final counties to overcome upsets

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

It is a curiosity of this season's county championship, sponsored by Thorne EMI, that both today's finalists at Twickenham lost their opening matches. Terry Marsh and Warwickshire, to Leicester. Yet, nothing daunted, they have demonstrated a commendable appetite for the competition and disposed of the two traditionally strong counties, Gloucestershire and Lancashire, to reach the final.

Warwickshire will wish to use their powerful pack, led by Robbin, England's number eight at the start of this international season, allied to Steve tactical kicking, to give them a basis for victory. Kent, while ignoring the qualities of their forwards, will hope to move the ball away from the set pieces, knowing they have the elusive Colver and the powerful Cokell among their backs and the speed and strength of Cheval and Skinner in support.

HOCKEY

Irish struggle to gain draw against Scots

By Joyce Whitehead
Ireland's women, going for the Home Counties grand slam, scrambled a 1-1 draw against Scotland as the start of the series's four tournaments began at Largs yesterday. Mary Barnwell equalized in the last minute from a penalty corner after a goal by Mansell Young had given Scotland the lead in the 24th minute.

FIFA rift deepens as S African money lures top players

Grant fuels defection row

The Fifa rift grant announced yesterday by South African Breweries (SAB) to the National Soccer League (NSL) will inevitably increase the conflict between South African football and Fifa over the import of foreign players. As in much of the economics of Africa, the wealth of the continent lies within the southern tip, and more than 50 professionals have been enticed by NSL teams to defect from Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland and Lesotho, with the probability that further players will be affected from Zambia, Zimbabwe and Zaire.

Grant fuels defection row

A £3 million academy for raising the levels of coaching and administration for their two million registered players, and ultimately for helping to build, with foreign investment, their own clubs, is the price of the import of foreign players. As in much of the economics of Africa, the wealth of the continent lies within the southern tip, and more than 50 professionals have been enticed by NSL teams to defect from Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland and Lesotho, with the probability that further players will be affected from Zambia, Zimbabwe and Zaire.

Cougars in the hunt

By Ian McLachlan
The American Cougars make an interesting entry to the Melrose Sevens this afternoon at Twickenham. The Cougars, six of whom played in Hong Kong, include Tommie Smith, who was named player of the tournament. The Americans are all big, fast men who are keen to make an impression on the Scottish circuit.

Romania's tough task

An influenza-stricken Romanian team face a huge challenge when they meet France in the northern French town of Lille today. The Romanians, demoralized after their 3-18 defeat against England in Bucharest a fortnight ago, and in the throes of developing a team for next year's World Cup, have never won an international on French soil.

Timms benefits from influence of Fletcher

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Sally Timms, of Woodford Green, Essex, has beaten three seeded players to reach today's girls' singles final of the British junior championships on state-sponsored by the Fudencal Association. The 15-year-old Wimbledon on courts sekiom exposed to public scrutiny. The seeds dismissed by Miss Timms, aged 16, have been Alison Fleming (8th), Clare Wood (2nd), and yesterday, Anne Simplin (5th).

Swedes in title hunt

Sweden maintained their domination of the WCT Finals on Thursday night in Dallas when Stefan Edberg, the third seed, and the seeded Anders Jarryd won straight-set victories to advance to the semi-finals.

WEEKEND FOOTBALL, RUGBY AND OTHER SPORTS FIXTURES

Table with multiple columns listing fixtures for First division, Second division, Third division, Fourth division, Scottish premier division, Scottish first division, RUGBY UNION, RUGBY LEAGUE, RUGBY UNION, BASEBALL, ICE HOCKEY, BASKETBALL, RACKETS, TABLE TENNIS, GOLF, BOXING, and other sports.

Scottish premier division

Table listing Scottish premier division fixtures: Aberdeen v Celtic, Clydebank v Rangers, Dundee Utd v Hearts, Hibernian v Dundee, Motherwell v St Miran.

Scottish first division

Table listing Scottish first division fixtures: Ayr v Clyde, Alloa v Hamilton, Forfar v Kirkcaldy, Falkirk v Morton, Forfar v Kirkcaldy, Montrose v Partick.

RUGBY UNION

Table listing Rugby Union fixtures: Bears v Gloucestershire, Gloucestershire v Bears, Gloucestershire v Bears, Gloucestershire v Bears.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Table listing Rugby League fixtures: Bradford Bulls v Wakefield Trinity, Wakefield Trinity v Bradford Bulls, Wakefield Trinity v Bradford Bulls.

BASEBALL

Table listing Baseball fixtures: New York Yankees v Kansas City Royals, Boston Red Sox v Detroit Tigers, Chicago White Sox v St. Louis Cardinals.

ICE HOCKEY

Table listing Ice Hockey fixtures: Boston Bruins v Montreal Canadiens, New York Rangers v Philadelphia Flyers, Washington Capitals v Pittsburgh Penguins.

BASKETBALL

Table listing Basketball fixtures: Boston Celtics v Philadelphia 76ers, New York Knicks v Washington Wizards, Los Angeles Lakers v Golden State Warriors.

JUDO

Wienecke pulls out

By Philip Nickson
Frank Wienecke, the West German who in 1984 won the Olympic light-middleweight title at the expense of Britain's Neil Adams, will not after all be coming to meet Adams in the 21st British Open championships at Crystal Palace today despite being listed earlier as a member of his country's team.

GOLF

Rugby warm to Hewitt challenge

By Nicholas Keith
The key factor on the second day of the Halford Hewitt yesterday was the weather and with the wind 'blowing' everyone's lips, you could be sure that the conversation had turned to underwear rather than warm winds.

FOR THE RECORD

Table listing various sports records: BASEBALL, ICE HOCKEY, BASKETBALL, RACKETS, TABLE TENNIS, GOLF, BOXING.

BOXING

Table listing Boxing fixtures: Terry Marsh v Patrizio Oliva, Terry Marsh v Patrizio Oliva, Terry Marsh v Patrizio Oliva.

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Saturday Weekend television and radio programmes Sunday

Edited by Jane Henderson and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

- 6.45 Open University News and Inference. 7.10 Hospital Radio. 7.30 Policy Making: After the Act. 8.00 Superstars. 8.30 Walk The Way Father Gets Home. Erna announces she's pregnant and Harry is delighted. 8.55 Bananamani. Eric is Bananamani with the voice of Tim Brooke-Taylor. 9.00 Saturday Superstars. TSG Rock School 1986. Finals of the national rock and pop competition. Tony Harro talks of news and facts and 25 years after 'You're a Good Girl' programme looks back at man in space. Sarah Greene brings news from the London Camden Palace. 12.15 Grandstand. Cricket: West Indies v England. 12.35 Football with the Cup Final only 8 months away. 12.55 News and Weather. 1.00 Bowls. 1.55 Racing from Ascot. 2.10 Ice Hockey. 2.30 Racing. 2.45 Swimming. 3.15 USSR v Holland. 2.10 Racing from Ascot including the Contonboard Novices Handicap. Chase over 2 1/2 miles. 3.50 Half-time. 4.00 Golf from The Masters in Augusta, Georgia. 4.40 Final Scores. 5.50 News with Jan Learning. 6.15 Sport and regional news. 6.20 The Muppet Show Guest Star Debbie Harry of Blondie, overwhelmed by her admirers sings 'The Way or Another and Call Me'. 6.45 The Duke of Hazard. Boss Hugo torments a young child as his wife discovers he's cashed her nest egg, but of course the Duke will save the day. 6.50 Every Second Counts. Comedy quiz against the clock with Paul Daniels. 7.05 The Collectors Part 7. A dog rovers ashore seems incongruous to a Swedish yachtswoman. When reported there she fears it may be rabid (Ceejay). 7.55 Film: Henry Pankaj (1982). Directed by Sidney Poitier. Comedy thriller with Gene Wilder as the innocent victim, an architect wrongly accused of murder, he goes on the run and is trapped on a deadly roller coaster. 9.40 News and Sport with Jan Learning. Weather. 9.55 Cagney and Lacey. The new ladies of the New York police department were equal in everything until split asunder in a power struggle. Cagney takes over the precinct when Lt Samuels is away and Mary Beth's nose is out of joint. 10.40 Film: A Guide for the Married Women (1978). Comedy about a divorced housewife tempted by a curious adulterous suggestion. Cybill Shepherd as the ardent American, finally forced to question her motives when her fantasies turn to reality. 12.15 Weather.

TV AM

- 6.55 Good Morning Britain. Introduced by Mike Morris. Weather with David Phillipot at 6.58. News at 7.00. Sport at 7.15. 7.30 The Wide Awake Club. Dolphin Flipper, adventures of the Gobots, news at 8.25. Tommy Boyd, Arabella Werner and James Baker launch a competition for leukaemia sufferers, and as usual the bed-making contest. 9.25 No 73 Dramatics: Ethel and Ernest. 11.00 Captain Scarlet faces court-martial. 11.30 Secret Rally Spider. McMurk has an obnoxious small cousin. 12.00 ITN News (Oracle). 12.05 Saint and Greaves Ian St John and Jimmy Greaves on the national rock and pop competition. 12.30 Wrestling the Golden Grappler from Fleetwood Marine Hall. Big Daddy v Dicky Collins. "The Emperor" and "Bearcat" Wright. 1.20 Airwolf adventure series about a super-helicopter and its pilot Stringfellow Hawke. It ain't sleek. Diplomacy is required in the matter of decor. 2.15 The European Boxing Championship. Terry Marsh for England, v Francisco Pizarro for Italy. 4.45 Results service 6.00 ITN News. 6.05 Connections teenage quiz with Sue Robbie. 6.58 The Mission to rescue Marian from Clun Castle. 6.30 Child's Play in which children define long words and guess. Kenneth Williams and Beverly Anderson guess them. 7.00 Bobby Davro On the Box. Impressions of Bonnie Langford, Su Pollard, Alex Higgins and Gloria Hunniford. Max Headroom too. 7.30 The Price is Right with Tony Soper and Les Gower. 8.30 Tarby and Friends. Jimmy Tarbuck welcomes Shirley Bassey, 19-year-old Samantha Fox (with her first pop recording) and young comic Justin Anderson. 9.15 C.A.T.S. Eyes the lady detective on the trail of a killer - could they be Heits and Lacey. 10.15 ITN News and Sport (Oracle). 10.30 The Late Cive James Anthony Jay, co-writer of 'Yes, Prime Minister' and 'Yes, Cabinet Minister'. Michael Heseltine have a word or two with the sharp Australian journalist. 11.15 LWT News Headlines followed by Film: The Thing (1982) Horror film. The most terrifying above 1951 version, of an alien that takes on the form of its victims. 12 Americans are threatened on a scientific investigation voyage to the Antarctic. 12.00 Night Thoughts with Colin Marchant.

BBC 2

- 6.50 Open University Community Education in Belfast. 7.15 Biology. 7.40 Work 8.05 The God that Rules. 8.30 Broadcast. 8.55 Social Sciences. 9.45 Maths. 10.10 Argument on Television. 10.35 Electronics and Atom. 11.00 Decision-making in Britain. 11.25 The Gamble of Investment. 11.50 Antony and Cleopatra. 12.15 Exploring Frequency Space. 12.40 Animals. Physiology. 1.05 Managing the Managers. 1.30 Mapping: The Mendip Castles. 1.55 Rugby Special. Thom EMU County Championship Final. Kent who have not won the championship since 1928. 2.30 Sunday Grandstand. Introduced by Bob Wilson. Major Racing from Jerez in Southern Spain. 4.00 World Bowls: the Final. 5.00 Swimming GB v USSR v Holland. 5.40 Basketball at the European National Championships. 6.30 The Money Programme with Brian Widdlake and Valerie Singleton. Reports on chess computers and Amstrad's success and takes a look at Nissan's North East factory. 7.15 Nature How much pesticide do we swallow? Tony Soper and Les Gower. Investigative. Trail bikes blasting through dunes may be damaging our natural parks. 7.45 World Bowls. The 16 teams in this series a week ago. Now five countries remain, fighting for the £10,000 prize. 8.10 Juan Carlos: King of All the Spaniards. King of Franco's death, Juan Carlos became king; he has restored monarchy and inaugurated the new Spanish Constitution. He granted an exclusive interview to Jack Pizzey, to be shown the week before his State Visit to Britain. 9.10 Golf: The Masters live from Augusta, Georgia. Bernhard Langer, the defending champion, plays Severiano Ballesteros. 12.00 Grand Prix The track in Jerez. Spain is 2.5 miles long. Formula One cars compete for the Spanish Grand Prix. 12.40 Closesdown.

CHANNEL 4

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Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland in Busby Berkeley's Strike Up the Band, Channel 4, 7.30pm

BBC 2

- 6.50 Open University Physics: which way to turn? 7.15 Roman Interior Decoration. 7.40 Education: Old Dog, New Trick. 8.05 ST Lucia: People and Celebration. 8.30 Thirties Film Comedy. 8.55 Ethnic Minorities: Punjab to Britain. 9.20 The Sessels Chapel, Sanz with Trinta. 9.45 Computer Systems: Design 10.10 Pure Maths 10.35 Maths Methods 11.00 Calculus 11.25 Interview with the Community 11.50 Electronics 12.15 Counting 1.05 The Changing Countryside 1.30 Air Pollution. 2.00 Film: Joan of Arc (1948) starring Ingrid Bergman as a rather worldly version of the French peasant with ambitions to save the nation against the English's army, and later sanctified by her own canonisation. 2.30 Film: Strike up the Band (1940) Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland in Busby Berkeley. With Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney who form a swing band in school and raise the money to take it to Chicago. 4.45 Durrell in Russia. Gerald and Lee Durrell shot this series in the Soviet Union. They meet Moscow zoo and meet a female spotted deer, walrus, snow leopard and pink oxen. 5.15 Row and Bob II. Look up the story last autumn of partners setting up a firm manufacturing safety equipment for roofers. 6.00 Tennis: Wimbledon semi-final. 7.15 Path of the Rain God. The tiny Caribbean country of Belize, where there are many rare species in the rain forest: mountain lions, vultures, and the moles crocodile. 8.15 Sinfonietta Young British pianist, Paul Crossley, performs a series of modern classical music. The first programme: A Universal Singing, features Three Places in the Forest by Ives and Five Pieces for Orchestra by Webern, played by the London Sinfonietta under David Atherton. 9.00 Zastavna A novel written by Shelley at the age of 18 makes a new four-part serial. A young man, Veretzi, alone in a hotel room, dreams of a woman who may be dead, a tale of demons and pterosaurs. 10.00 The Twilight Zone "First Night Call" Gladys Cooper as a bedridden spinster with a link to the underworld. Followed by Probe 71-1 Over and Out. A spacecraft lands on Earth. 12.00 World Bowls further coverage from Bourneville. 1.05 Closesdown.

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FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105.3kHz/28.5m; 108.9kHz/27.5m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/433m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF 90-92.5; Radio 4: 2017.5kHz/15.2m; 1524kHz/261m; VHF 87.5; Capital: 154.9kHz/194m; VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/20.9m; VHF 94.5; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

Radio 4

- On long wave. VHF variations at end of Radio 4 listings. 5.55 Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Britain (pop). Michael Ford (s) 6.30 News. Farming Today 6.50 Prayer for the Day (s) 6.55 World Travel. 7.00 News. 7.15 On Your Farm. 7.45 In Perspective. Religious affairs with Rosemary Harill. 7.50 Down to Earth. Weekend gardening 7.55 Weather. 8.00 News & 8.10 Today's Papers. 8.15 Sport on 4. 8.45 Strategy in Parliament. 8.57 Weather. Travel. 9.05 Breakaway. A practical guide to holidays, with Bernard Fall. 9.50 News Stand. David Bradbury reviews the weekly magazines. 10.05 The West. A series of feature programmes with Peter Riddell. Political Editor of the Financial Times. 10.30 From Our Own Correspondents. Ned Sherrin and studio guests. 11.30 From Our Own Correspondents. Life and politics abroad, reported by BBC foreign correspondents. 12.00 Questions of Taste (new series). Panel game about food and drink (s) 12.55 Weather. 1.08 News. 1.10 Any Questions? with Bel Mooney and MPs Tom King, Denis Healey and Roy Jenkins (pp) 1.55 Shipping Forecast. 2.00 News. The Afternoon Play. The Jenny Wagon by John Ford. With Tessa Worley, Ian Cuthbertson and Daniel Webb (ff) 2.30 News. For Love that Money. On the 25th anniversary of the Pre-School Playgroup. 3.30 News. International Correspondents report from around the world. 4.00 The Saturday Feature: The Wound Dresser. Recollections of the American Civil War from the journals, letters and poems of Walt Whitman. (With Denis Cullity as Whitman). 4.45 The Fossilized Saga II. Series based on Bill Taylor's cartoon strip. 5.00 The Living World. Derek Jones goes in search of our native amphibians. 5.25 Week Ending. Satirical review of the week's news. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 6.00 News. Sports round-up. 6.25 Sport. The Week with Rob Robinson. Musical interlude from Sue Carson. 7.00 Saturday-night Theatre. Waylayers by David

Radio 3

- Hopkins. With Peter Act. Baker's Dozen. Richard Baker with records (s) 9.30 Thriller Part 2 of Ruth Rendell's A Judgement In Stone, read by Paul Daltan. In six parts. 9.58 Weather. 10.00 News. Evening Service (s) 10.15 The Merchant Mariners. The Merchant Mariners. 10.30 World Wide Investigates the truth behind the charismatic figure of Bishop Charles Wesley Vaughan Williams and his time. Mandelstam (Midsummer Night's Dream overture). Vaughan Williams (Symphony No 5). Handel (Tel Farrer). Pearce, Lortie, Schumann (Piano Concerto). Schumann (Symphony No 3). Schumann (Symphony No 4). Ireland (Epic March). 12.00 News. Weather. 12.30 Shipping Forecast. VHF (available in England and Wales) with the above except: 6.55-6.00 as above. Weather. Travel. 4.00-6.00 pm Options. 4.00 The Music of James Harrison. Sackerson meets composer Oliver Knussen (s) 4.30 Spain - Ten Years On. Robert Conroy (s) 4.50 News. Events of 23 February 1981, when the Spanish parliament was held to reconvene. 5.00 Literatures. 5.15 Laurie Lee joins Christopher Somerville on a walk round the village of St. Dunstons. 5.30 Landscapes of the Night. A scientific study of dreams. 6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Auber's Berlioz. (Berlioz and Benedict Aubert). Monteverdi (Ballet). Tini and Clark: English Baroque. Solists: Monteverdi Choir and soloists Anthony Rolfe Johnson and Patricia Kuehn. Bach: Bach's Notebook for Anna Bach in G minor Op 10 No 3, and Humoresque in G major, Op 10 No 5, composed with piano roll. Sibyllas (Valse triste). Elgar (Suite No 2-Wand of Youth). Weber (Concerto in E flat, Op 25, 2nd movement). 9.05 Record Review: with Paul Vaughan. Includes Rodney Milnes's guide to recordings of Liszt's piano works. 9.15 News. 9.25 News. 9.30 News. 9.35 News. 9.40 News. 9.45 News. 9.50 News. 9.55 News. 10.00 News. 10.05 News. 10.10 News. 10.15 News. 10.20 News. 10.25 News. 10.30 News. 10.35 News. 10.40 News. 10.45 News. 10.50 News. 10.55 News. 11.00 News. 11.05 News. 11.10 News. 11.15 News. 11.20 News. 11.25 News. 11.30 News. 11.35 News. 11.40 News. 11.45 News. 11.50 News. 11.55 News. 12.00 News. 12.05 News. 12.10 News. 12.15 News. 12.20 News. 12.25 News. 12.30 News. 12.35 News. 12.40 News. 12.45 News. 12.50 News. 12.55 News. 1.00 News. 1.05 News. 1.10 News. 1.15 News. 1.20 News. 1.25 News. 1.30 News. 1.35 News. 1.40 News. 1.45 News. 1.50 News. 1.55 News. 2.00 News. 2.05 News. 2.10 News. 2.15 News. 2.20 News. 2.25 News. 2.30 News. 2.35 News. 2.40 News. 2.45 News. 2.50 News. 2.55 News. 3.00 News. 3.05 News. 3.10 News. 3.15 News. 3.20 News. 3.25 News. 3.30 News. 3.35 News. 3.40 News. 3.45 News. 3.50 News. 3.55 News. 4.00 News. 4.05 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